

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

**Geneva behind Closed doors**  
The superpower talks on the balance of nuclear weapons in Europe are in stalemate. John Barry tells the inside story in a series based on both American and Soviet sources.

**Dressing up**  
Suzy Menkes previews this week's opening of the Victoria and Albert Museum's magnificent Dress Collection, after five years of preparation. Maclean in Moscow

The dissident Russian historian Roy Medvedev reveals what happened to the spy Donald Maclean after he "escaped" to the Soviet Union in 1951.

## Yard faces battle over CID future

Scotland Yard said the future of London's 3,500-strong CID force is under review but denied that the Flying Squad is to be scrapped.

Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, is understood to be considering an action plan for policing in London which is expected to involve surgery on specialist squads.

A political battle is shaping up in the Yard about the CID's future, a struggle reminiscent of the battle which developed when Sir Robert Mark became Commissioner.

## Lecturers 'dying'

College lecturers are being driven to early graves by the increasing strain of their jobs, a union leader has claimed. He said 200 lecturers had died in the current academic year.

## Rhine floods

The West German cities of Cologne, Bonn and Koblenz were largely under water after the River Rhine overflowed its banks in the worst floods since the Second World War.

## How to survive

The Prince of Wales is to announce the official British response to the World Conservation Strategy next week. In the first of three articles our Environment Correspondent explains how conservation is practised in Britain.

## Hawke warned

A Liberal victory with an increased majority in the Melbourne suburban constituency of Bruce was a warning to Mr. Bob Hawke that his honeymoon with the Australian electorate is over.

## Armed fiesta

Spain's armed forces' week this year was marred by the murder of two Civil Guards and protests against conscription in the Basque country. King Juan Carlos was warmly acclaimed by the crowds at the events he attended.

## Walesa ordeal

Mr Lech Walesa, head of the banned Solidarity organization, faces more questioning by Polish authorities amid signs that a dissident trial will be delayed till after the Pope's visit.

## Envoy 'to go'

President Reagan was reported to have decided to replace Mr Deane Hinton, US Ambassador to El Salvador, as part of his attempt to put "his own people" in key positions dealing with Central American policy.

## France on top

France, the reigning world champions, won the Prince of Wales Cup for the second successive year at Hickstead to put them at the top of the President's Cup table. Britain finished equal third.

Leader page 11  
Letters: On the election from Professor Royden Harrison and others; on radiation in homes from Professor Patrick O'Sullivan

Leading articles: Housing policies; New Ireland Forum; oilseed rape

Features, page 8-10  
The making of the coronation: Barbara Castle's election column. Spectrum: The ferrets who found the flu bug; Miles Kington's follies of 1927. Profile: David Bowie - rock and role reversal

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Mr. E. M. Glover, Mary Kent Harrison

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# Summit unity on defence and world economy

The first full day of the Williamsburg summit yesterday underlined the main aim of the eight Western leaders to resolve their differences amicably.

Economic policies were the subject of the first meeting after a "prayer for peace" service at the local church. President

Reagan then hosted a lunch at which East-West relations were discussed.

Mrs Thatcher, who is due to resume her election campaign in London this morning, had a series of private bilateral meetings and urged Mr Reagan to modify a Bill that would tighten East-West trade sanctions.

From Bailey Morris and Nicholas Ashford, Williamsburg

The leaders of the major western industrialized nations opened their discussions yesterday with a demonstration of unity on the main economic and political issues they will be reviewing during the three-day summit.

Their statements made it clear that they wish to show the world, and the Soviet bloc in particular, that they can resolve their differences harmoniously and at the same time take initiatives that will ensure a sustained recovery.

Fears that the summit could be marred by confrontation between the French and Americans, as occurred at last year's summit in Versailles, were quickly dispelled by President Mitterrand. In a most conciliatory manner, the French President explained to President Reagan during a private meeting before the conference that his call for a new Bretton Woods-style conference to revise the world monetary order had been misinterpreted.

Just as the leaders were converging on this neatly restored eighteenth century town, the Soviet Union threatened to begin moving missiles into Eastern Europe if Nato went ahead with the planned

deployment of new medium-range missiles in Western Europe.

But the Soviet threat, far from sowing dissonance at the summit as was clearly intended, appeared to have had the opposite effect.

Both in their bilateral meetings and during dinner on Saturday night, where the conversation centred on defence and arms control issues, the leaders went out of their way to express solidarity on the question of missile deployment and the need to maintain a united front against Soviet blandishment.

A White House spokesman gave a firm "no comment" to a front-page report in *The Washington Post* yesterday that Britain, West Germany and Italy had asked the US to produce a new 155mm neutron artillery shell. The three countries have publicly refused deployment of US neutron weapons on their territory and, according to a British spokesman, "no proposals have been received from the US for the deployment of these weapons".

The leaders of Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Canada, Japan and the European Community arrived here

on Saturday afternoon to be greeted by President Reagan with a colourful display of pageantry.

Soon after her arrival Mrs Thatcher held private meetings with Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, Herr Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor and President Reagan. A spokesman for the Prime Minister said that her talks with these three leaders had assured her that their economies were all moving in the same direction.

Her "cautious optimism" was closely aligned to President Reagan's aspirations for the meeting which he hoped would show that "we are on the way out of the world recession and are able to obtain a lasting recovery without any resort to the quick fixes of the past".

After a prayer for peace service in Williamsburg's 168 year-old Bruton parish church, the eight leaders met in private for their first meeting which dealt with General economic matters. They were joined in the afternoon by their finance and foreign ministers for a more detailed review of ways to coordinate economic policies.

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President Reagan escorting Mrs Thatcher from Bruton Parish church after Sunday morning service conducted by the Reverend Cotesworth Lewis (talking to Chancellor Kohl)

# Alliance to move Jenkins out of the limelight

From Michael Kniffe, Etrickbridge

The leadership of the SDP/Liberal Alliance resisted pressure to drop Mr Roy Jenkins from his position as Prime Minister designate yesterday, but agreed that Mr David Steel should assume a much higher profile than he has so far.

Meeting at Mr Steel's home in Etrickbridge, Selkirkshire, on the day that opinion polls showed an improvement in the popularity of the Alliance, the 12-strong campaign committee took the view that any change in the leadership at this stage would be counter-productive, particularly with the Alliance anxious to emphasize its unity in contrast with the leadership image problems of both the Labour and Conservative parties.

The most effective way of overcoming the problem it was felt, was by exploiting Mr Steel's popularity by making much greater use of him on television and taking the spotlight away as much as possible from Mr Jenkins, whose popularity rating in the opinion polls has been particularly low.

Speaking at a press conference after the two-and-a-half hour strategy meeting, Mr Steel and Mr Jenkins did their best to play down the leadership issue and emphasized that with movement towards the Alliance beginning to show in the opinion polls, greater effort would be made in getting Alliance policies across to the public.

The media, however, were more interested in the leadership issue.

Had the meeting made any decision about who might be the leader of the Opposition in the event of a Conservative victory? "No, we're not in Ruritania; we're in Etrickbridge", Mr Steel said.

Did Mr Jenkins hear from anyone at the meeting the suggestion that he should step down from the leadership? Mr Jenkins: "No, we came to a completely agreed view that we do not change horses in mid-stream."

Had nobody suggested to Mr Jenkins that he should step down, Mr Steel: "No."

The Alliance was committed to maintaining its dual leadership, Mr Steel said. There had been some discussion, but they had disposed of that fairly quickly. "What we recognize is the criticism that I have not

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been, perhaps, as prominent in the campaign as I should have been. This is more by accident than by design, because the major television programmes which I am involved in happen to come out in the second half of the campaign.

Mr Jenkins also emphasized that no changes had been made. "David Steel always has been chairman of the campaign committee", he said, "and, to that extent, the leader of the campaign. That has always been clearly understood from the beginning. There is absolutely no change in titles or roles."

Asked if he would be prepared to relinquish the title of prime minister designate that would make the difference

Continued on back page, col 1

## Mrs Thatcher's progress Plea to modify sanctions Bill

From Nicholas Ashford, Williamsburg

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has taken the full weight of her authority behind British and European Community attempts to persuade the United States to modify an East-West trade Bill that would extend the reach of American laws to foreign countries.

In a 40-minute meeting with President Reagan shortly after her arrival in this picturesque and historic town which was first established by British settlers, the Prime Minister expressed the view that the Bill's extraterritorial and retroactive provisions would "cause difficulty" for Britain if enacted.

Although she carefully avoided being combative when raising the issue, her intervention was clearly designed to underscore British concerns about the political, legal and economic implications of the Bill. British officials said the President had taken note of her remarks.

Similar expressions of concern were made by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a separate meeting with Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary.

Congress is currently considering legislation that would extend and toughen the 1979 Export Administration Act, which was invoked last summer by the Reagan Administration in applying sanctions against British and other foreign-based companies that supplied pipeline equipment to the Soviet Union.

At the time Mrs Thatcher took strong exception to those controls as an infringement to British sovereignty. The revised Bill would strengthen the extra territorial controls by giving the President the authority to "ban" imports from companies as well as countries that violate US East-West trade controls.

The Prime Minister's meeting with the President took

place in the garden of the eighteenth century Providence Hall.

Apart from their disagreement over trade controls, the two leaders were of one mind on practically all the other subjects they discussed, such as the need for sustained, non-inflationary economic growth and for the West to remain united in the face of Soviet attempts to divide the US from its European allies over the issue of the planned deployment of 572 Pershing and ground-launched cruise missiles.

Mrs Thatcher also held separate bilateral meetings with Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, and Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor. At dinner on Saturday night Mrs Thatcher played a leading part in the first political discussion of the summit.

Soviet missile threat and Third World shadow, page 6

## IRA 'assassin' at home in Tralee

Sean O'Callaghan, the Irish republican activist who was prime suspect in an alleged IRA plot to assassinate Britain's political leaders, was found yesterday in his home town of Tralee.

Mr O'Callaghan, who was said by Scotland Yard to have been in-hiding in Britain, said he had not left Co Kerry for weeks.

To prove his presence in Tralee, Mr O'Callaghan had his photograph taken holding a British Sunday newspaper with its headlines about "an IRA jackal".

The photograph was taken by Mr Gerry Conneely, who told newspapers that he was willing to sell the photograph and an interview with Mr O'Callaghan for several hundred pounds.

Mr O'Callaghan said: "The whole thing is hilarious. I regard it as nothing more than an election ploy in the part of the British. I have not been away from here for weeks and have no plans to leave either."

Mr O'Callaghan, a member of Sinn Fein, the political arm

of the IRA, is well known to Tralee for his backing of the hard-line Irish republican cause, and he was prominent in the IRA hunger strikers in Ulster two years ago.

Police in Tralee said they had seen Mr O'Callaghan locally as recently as last Tuesday and he was not thought to have been out of the area. And Mr O'Callaghan, dismissive of the alleged IRA conspiracy to attack top British politicians, emphasized his intention to stay at home.

Pointing at a range of hills nearby, he said: "My only place at the moment is to take an exercising run in those mountains."

Scotland Yard had said it thought Mr O'Callaghan was in Britain with John Downey, of Co Cavan, who is wanted in connection with last year's Hyde Park and Regent's Park bombings. The Yard's immediate reaction to the reports that Mr O'Callaghan was at home was: "We stand by our statement at the moment".

## 'Super secrets' for Cabinet eyes only

By Peter Heennessy

The Prime Minister has introduced a new "super secret" classification and a special handling procedure for the most sensitive Cabinet documents in an effort to combat Whitehall leaks.

Such papers will carry boldly displayed the initials "CMO" believed to stand for "Cabinet Ministers Only". Each department is restricted to two copies, one of which must remain in the Secretary of State's private office.



Sir Robert Armstrong: new secrecy drill

Top officials were informed of the system at a recent meeting of permanent secretaries, one of a regular series to the Cabinet Office. Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, said its use would be restricted to a very small proportion of Cabinet papers, in addition to the long-standing arrangement of "confidential annexes" for Cabinet minutes intended to have a very limited circulation. No details of the new secrecy drill have been announced.

Future historians may be disappointed by the quality of the "CMO" archives when they start to appear at the Public Record Office under the 30-year rule in 2014.

One item now available from the files of top secret confidential annexes for 1947 is a discussion of what kind of present the Cabinet could purchase for Princess Elizabeth (as the Queen was then) and the Duke of Edinburgh on the occasion of their wedding.

## Tension high in Bekaa valley Israel sends in more tanks

From Robert Fisk, Damascus

Israeli reconnaissance jets flew over the Syrian-occupied northern Bekaa valley all morning yesterday as more Israeli troops and armour moved across the frontier into Lebanon.

Syria, which had earlier sent large elements of a tank brigade to the northern Lebanese city of Baalbek, withdrew some of its reinforcements during the day, claiming that its "spring military exercises" had reached a successful conclusion. Given the fact that up to 70,000 Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian troops were in the Bekaa over the past two days, it has - to put it mildly - been a tense weekend.

The Syrians had earlier sent some of their extra tank units south of Baalbek and positioned them outside the village of Majdel Aanjar - where they still are - while carrying out small live-firing exercises 10 miles behind the United Nations Golan ceasefire lines inside Syria. Up to 30 T62 and T72 tanks with troops up to company strength have been taking part in the Syrian exercises behind Golan although the armour has been



Yassir Arafat: Mutiny in his ranks

returning to Damascus each night on flat-bed lorries.

Six Soviet soldiers, stripped half naked in the sun but wearing the sombrero style tropical hats that have previously made their appearance among Russian units in Afghanistan, could be observed at the military airport south of Damascus but there was no evidence that any Soviet troops participated in the Syrian manoeuvres.

Syria now insists that the Israelis have 1,000 tanks in Lebanon - which probably

exaggerates the true figure by around 300 vehicles - although Damascus has given no indication of its own armoured strength in the Bekaa. At least 600 Syrian tanks are thought to be there and around Tripoli.

As if the weekend tension was not enough, the split inside the Palestine Liberation Organization has grown wider in the past 24 hours as dissidents within the Fatah guerrilla movement, opposed to Mr Yassir Arafat's political leadership, have taken control of seven PLO fuel and ammunition depots, six around Damascus and a seventh in the Bekaa. According to a spokesman for the "mutineers" the supply depots were commandeered by Palestinian guards who objected to Mr Arafat's order that the dissidents in Lebanon were to be deprived of ammunition.

Mr Arafat himself was deep in conference with his military council in Damascus yesterday afternoon.

A Syrian Government official said that the PLO dispute was "purely an internal affair".

Israeli alert, Page 6

## Hundreds see airmen die in holiday show crash

By David Walker

Hundreds of spectators saw a Beechcraft training aircraft crash near a runway, instantly killing its two-man crew, at RAF Mildenhall's annual air show yesterday.

The T34C, in service with the United States Navy, was piloted by two American civilians employed by the manufacturers, which has an extensive United States Air Force presence. A spokesman for the base promised a full inquiry into the accident.

The crowds at the Suffolk show had sheltered from the rain in hangars and under the wings of grounded aircraft to watch the aerobatics.

Elsewhere the dull, wet and cold weather threw a pall over the bank holiday weekend.

Heavy rains had swollen the River Wear near Sunderland and the current proved too strong for five youths who went for an early morning swim yesterday. Three escaped, a fourth was washed downstream to be rescued by police but a fifth, David Pitt of Dryburgh, Glesbe, near Washington, was

still missing last night after extensive searches.

But the bad weather did not stop the usual array of spring festivals, seaside disturbances and traffic jams.

In Burnston, Staffordshire, two men fell 20ft from the big wheel in operation at the town's fair and, although injured, neither was reported to be in any danger.

Fights broke out in the West Country resort of Newquay and in Great Yarmouth, where more than 20 young men were brought before a special magis-

trates court. One, Timothy Brooks of Gillioham, was given the choice of selling his scooter to pay his £400 fine or going to jail.

Holiday traffic was heavy, with bottlenecks on the main roads to North Wales, in Devon and on the access roads to Blackpool near Preston. Road works on the M5 also caused congestion near Bridgewater, Somerset. Motorists' comfort was not increased by a strike of catering and other staff of the motorway services owned by Rank Leisure; although the

management provided some services.

But weather predictions for today provide a gleam of hope. The London Weather Centre said it should be dry and even sunny, although the rain is expected to return tomorrow.

For the record, the three months preceding Mrs Thatcher's election victory in May 1979 were considerably wetter than this spring. In 1979, 9,666mm of rain fell between March and the end of May compared with 7,416mm between March and the past weekend.

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# Shopping centres built in 1960s need urgent repair and modernizing

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

Dozens of shopping centres built less than 20 years ago need work done on them urgently, a leading design consultant says. He believes it will cost millions of pounds to bring the centres up to modern standards.

Many high streets throughout the country were rejuvenated during the 1960s as developers and retailing chains tried to follow modern shopping trends. But it is now believed that up to 80 per cent of 11 million sq ft of new shopping schemes developed between 1965 and 1969 need urgent repair and modernization to bring them up to the present day standards.

## Family sell furniture to help tribes

From Our Correspondent Ipswich

Charity began at home yesterday for a widow and her four children after they saw most of their furniture and possessions sold to help starving tribes in Africa.

Mrs Joan Kerr, aged 45, of Frogs Hall Road, Lindsey, Suffolk, decided to sell her household "fixtures" after watching a harrowing television film about the famine in Ethiopia.

She said yesterday: "I suddenly realized that we did not need all these things and they could be used to bring life and hope to people in real need."

At a public auction in Lindsey village hall on Saturday 135 lots from Mrs Kerr's home were sold for more than £3,000, which she is giving to Oxfam's Ethiopia appeal.

The dining room table, chairs and a dish washer, as well as pictures, mirrors and bedside lamps went under the hammer. The highest bid was £355 for the dining room suite and the smallest was £1 for a stone ginger beer bottle that Mrs Kerr dog up in her garden.

"All we have left is our beds, a few personal things, an old cooker and fridge, and my washing machine. I felt a bit guilty keeping that, but with four children I could not face the thought of doing without it," she said.

Her children all contributed to the sale. Timothy, aged 19, handed over his motor cycle and crash helmet and Emily, aged 14 her youngest daughter, parted with her favourite horse pictures and toys.

Mrs Kerr plans to refurbish her luxury modern home with second-hand goods from junk shops. She added: "I hope our gesture will make other people stop and think about the plight of the starving."

## Rembrandt theft motive a mystery

By David Nicholson-Lord

Security is to be tightened further at Dulwich College picture gallery, in south London, from where the £1m Rembrandt which is earning the sobriquet of Britain's most purloined painting disappeared again at the weekend.

A gang made off with the portrait of Jacob de Gheyn III at 1am on Saturday, even though the police arrived three minutes after the alarm sounded. It was the fourth time the painting had been stolen in 16 years.

Suggestions of negligence were rejected yesterday by Mrs Giles Waterfield, the gallery's director, who said that after the last theft, in 1981, £20,000 had been spent on security measures recommended by police and consultants. Pictures had been individually alarmed and screwed to the wall, night security had been updated and new locks, bolts and grilles installed.

The thieves used ladders to enter through the skylights. The gallery says it cannot afford night staff but will now install more bars and grilles on skylights. The police declined to comment on the gallery's security.

Customs officers and police at ports have been warned to look out for the painting, but since it is regarded as unsalable on anything resembling an open market both its destination and the motives of its abductors remain a mystery.

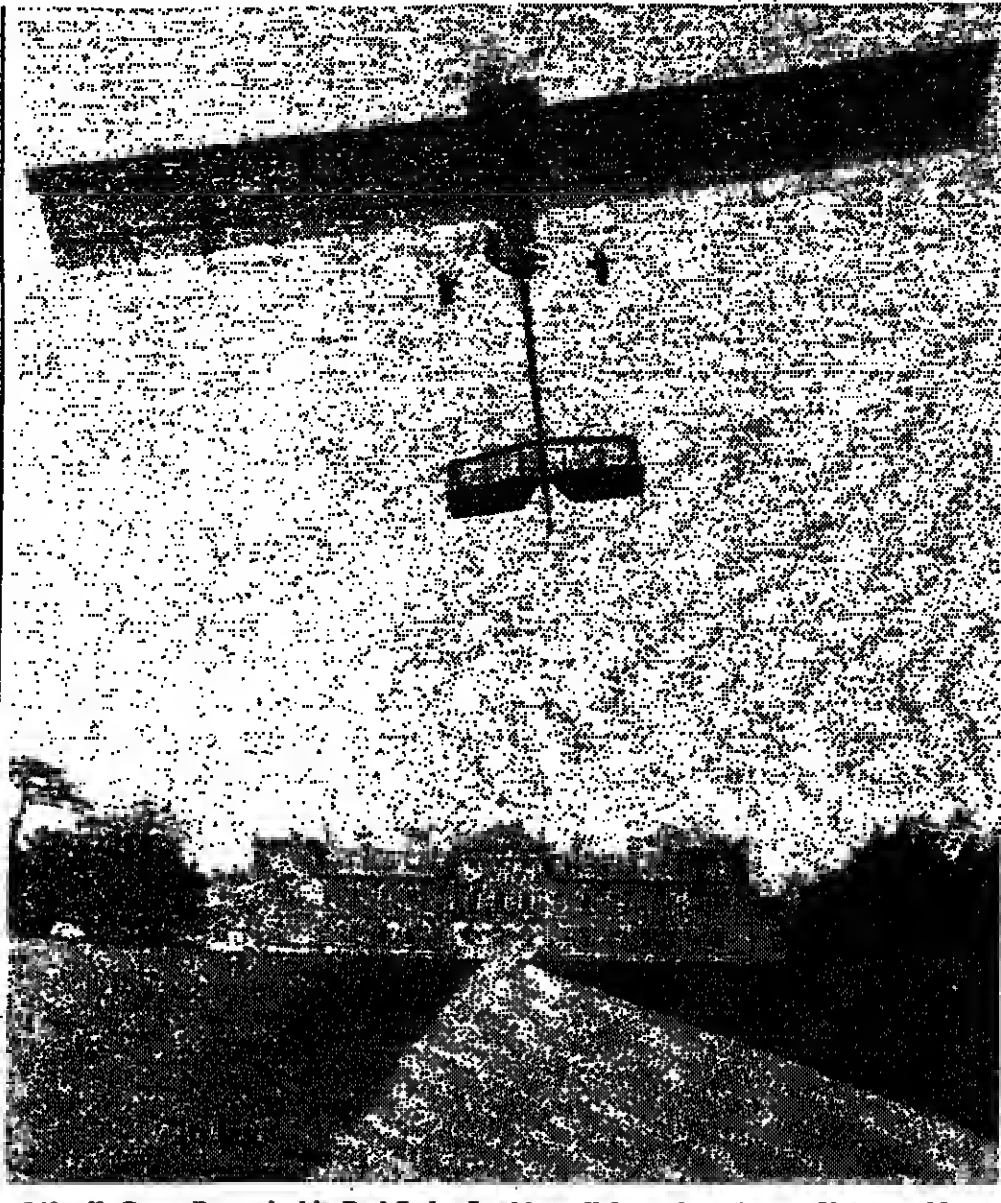
Mr Waterfield said it might be destined for a private collector, "who might get a thrill from the fact that it is stolen".

He appealed to the gang to keep the picture away from extremes of heat and cold and not to move it too much. The painting is on wood and thus especially vulnerable to damp.

The Rembrandt, painted in 1632 and measuring 18in by 12in, was also stolen in 1967 and 1973, on the latter occasion by a man who said he had taken it to make a copy. It was found hidden in his coat.

In 1981 it was recovered, a few days after the theft, in a London taxi after the thief had apparently panicked.

The police want to talk to the driver of an orange three-wheeled vehicle parked near the gallery at the time of the theft.



Lift-off: Gerry Breen in his Pathfinder J taking off from the drive at Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire, in rehearsal for today's microlight display (Photograph: Jonathan Player).

## How the public got the best seats for the ceremony

# Behind-the-screens story of the coronation

By Kenneth Gosling

"It was a close-run thing," Sir Fife Clark recalls, "whether the actual ceremony, those really private moments, would ever get on the television screens and be seen by one of the biggest audiences in history."

Most people, certainly those aged over 40, have a tale to tell about the coronation, which took place in a rainy London 30 years ago this week. Sir Fife, who celebrated his seventy-sixth birthday yesterday, was closer than most to the central figures involved in the months leading up to June 2, 1953, the day Elizabeth was crowned queen.

Sir Fife was public relations adviser in the Government and, for the Coronation, to the

Earl Marshal of England, the Duke of Norfolk, the man who was brilliantly to mastermind the events of the day.

It had started badly. "It was a very delicate question, of course - a matter of reversing a decision taken unanimously by the coronation joint committee and the coronation commission and approved by the Cabinet, that no television cameras would be allowed west of the choir screen in Westminster Abbey."

"A great audience would see nothing of the main ceremony. When I saw this I was, of course, astonished. I took it up first, pointing out the implications, with Lord Swinton, (coordinator of Home Information Services.) That was in

October and the ban was not finally removed until two months later.

"You have to remember one of the remarkable things about all this: Churchill, the Prime Minister, was not a man of the television age at all. He never appeared on television. There was no television set in No 10. Churchill was a radio and press man - he seldom looked at the set there was at Chequer."

"But though he did not believe in Cabinet ministers going on television, once I got him interested in this he went into all the details and really took command of the issue."

Few other people, apart from the BBC, were really interested, Sir Fife said. Civil

# New powers urged for police to hold glue-sniffers

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A new power for police to detain young people found glue-sniffing in public places, in police stations or drying out centres, is being urged by the Justices' Clerks' Society.

In a paper to the Department of Health and Social Security, which has sought advice on solvent abuse, the society outlines proposals to deal with all kinds of intoxication on the streets, including glue-sniffing.

The society, of 350 chief legal advisers to magistrates in England and Wales, says: "Unlike drink and drugs, there seems to be no feasible way of controlling by statute the supply of solvent."

The only area of possible control, it says, is the conduct of the solvent abuser. As the result of solvent abuse is so similar to that of drink and drug abuse, a common scheme of prevention is possible.

In a draft Bill the society proposes a new power for police to detain anyone intoxicated from any cause in a public place. Children could be held for drinking, taking drugs, or glue-sniffing, even if not intoxicated.

The offences of drunkenness or being drunk and disorderly would be repealed. These offences are increasingly criticized the society says. Fines are

irrelevant to alcoholism, and do not prevent reoffending.

Yet there is a real problem in letting drunken people lie down or stagger around in public places where they may injure themselves or others, cause accidents, be a health hazard, or the subject of abuse by passers-by.

The society says that some police forces, such as Dorset, have stopped bringing charges of simple drunkenness. Instead the offender is arrested and detained until sober, when he is released without charge. But there is no such power in relation to juveniles found glue-sniffing.

The society proposes that they should be subject to similar detention powers so that they can be held long enough to enable inquiries to be made. "Such a power would be justified on the ground that glue-sniffing is a potentially dangerous practice and when carried out in public is a bad example to other children, as well as being objectionable to the public at large," it says.

Under the Bill, for which the society is seeking sponsorship after the election, adults would be held until sober, children until seen by a social worker or claimed by their parents. Longer detention would be possible if a child was intoxicated or the circumstances warranted it.

## Legion plea for widows' pensions

The Government was criticized over the plight of war widows at the annual conference in Portsmouth at the weekend of the Royal British Legion (RBL).

Members said they had been badly let down and upset by the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS) over the level of war widows' pensions and over a new, purpose-built rehabilitation and assessment centre, erected by the legion and handed over to the department, which remains virtually unused.

The Churchill centre, at Maidstone, Kent, cost more than £600,000, which was raised by an appeal in 1981, the International Year of Disabled People. It was handed over to Mr Kenneth Clarke, the minister for Health, last year, but for want of £12,000 from the health service to cover the cost of a physiotherapist, the centre's hydrotherapy pool is not in use.

The department says the funds may not be available until late 1984 or early 1985. Mr Ronald Buckingham, national chairman of the legion, told the conference he was going to ask the minister why the money could not be found immediately.

The conference unanimously urged the Government to increase the basic level of war widows' pensions to a reasonable proportion of average national earnings.

One delegate, a war widow, said her invalid husband, who died recently, had a pension of more than £100 a week, but she received only £42.70 and had to rely on supplementary benefit, and a rate rebate to live.

The delegates also asked the Government to remove anomalies in pensions and payments made as compensation for death and disablement as a result of service in the Forces.

## Support for two-year degrees

Strong support for the idea of two-year degrees in place of the present three-year minimum has come from the Council for National Academic Awards, which approves all courses in polytechnics and other higher education colleges outside the universities.

The council envisages a range of new qualifications below the level of the three-year honours degree, some of which would be more suitable for the growing number of part-time students.

A new paper from the council, to be circulated to the 130 colleges and polytechnics offering degrees for which it is responsible, is strikingly close in its recommendations to the conclusions of the Leverhulme inquiry into the future of higher education, which reported on Friday.

Leverhulme proposes that more students should be studying part-time and more should consider degree courses slightly below the present pattern of three years' full-time study. It also considers that more students should be permitted to interrupt their studies for example to work for a period, and continue later. In that way more students might "work through college" along American lines.

The council proposes a revival of the qualification known as the Diploma in Higher Education. It has been available for some years but has not won support either in colleges or to employers. Ideally, the council says, that diploma would be a useful qualification in itself or serve as a good introduction to a full three-years honours degree.

## Engine revived

A lorry engine which spent three months in the sea after it sank with the ferry European Gateway off Harwich last September started the first time when brought ashore. The Bedford 500 engine needed a new starter motor and new oil.

## Migraine 'relieved by plant leaf sandwiches'

Migraine sufferers, disappointed with the orthodox drugs their doctors prescribe, are turning to a centuries-old herbal remedy and finding that it works, a research chemist claims in *Mims Medical Magazine*, it is made from the leaves of the feverfew plant, a member of the chrysanthemum family found in many gardens.

Feverfew in bread and butter sandwiches mixed with honey to disguise the bitter taste is proving so effective a treatment that an "epidemic" of leaf-chewing is under way, Dr E. S. Johnson, reader in pharmacology at King's College, London, writes.

Of 300 chewers, almost all of whom had their migraine diagnosed by doctors, 70 per cent claimed their attacks were frequent, less painful or both.

About a third had no further migraine attacks after starting

on the plant, and four-fifths of those who stopped taking it had a recurrence of severe migraine within a week or two.

A formal, controlled medical trial is under way at the City of London Migraine Clinic, which is associated with St Bartholomew's Hospital.

Feverfew, Dr Johnson writes, has been called the aspirin of the eighteenth century, "the rediscovery of its properties has been made entirely by patients who have passed it to other sufferers."

New chemical structures which can counter such substances as histamine and prostaglandins in the body, have been isolated from the plant and could account for its properties.

Dr Johnson points out that no toxicity tests have been carried out, so it is unlikely that the Department of Health will approve the cure.

## Police raid the wrong homes twice in a night

From Our Correspondent Torbay

The police are to investigate how a team of detectives raided two wrong houses on the same night.

The first raid took place on May 21 at the home of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Carder, who said they returned home and thought they had been burgled. Two policemen told them later that they had a search warrant for a house 200 yards away.

The second raid on the same night was at the home of Mr and Mrs William Sheriff. The police were looking for the couple's son-in-law Mr Roger Symons in connexion with stolen television sets. But Mr Symons, who had a police record, died seven years ago.

Mr Sheriff, aged 68, of Horsham Cottages, Honicknowle, Plymouth, said: "Once they have your name on file it sticks". His wife, aged 62,



Mr and Mrs Carder: Thought they had been burgled. said: "When they realized that Roger was dead they left without searching". Mr and Mrs Carder, of Dicklemore Lane, Honicknowle, say they face a bill of about £100 for damage they claim was done. Their eldest son, Mr Stephen Carder, aged 32, who was there when the police arrived, said last night: "They had a folded up piece of paper and said they had come to search the house."

## World Conservation Strategy: 1

# Farm that flowers without chemicals

The World Conservation Strategy is a survival plan for nature in a world dominated by the human race. The *Prince of Wales* will introduce the official British response to it on June 8. Hugh Clayton, *Environment Correspondent*, explains in the first of three articles how it is practised in the Cotswolds.

Bill Elliott has lived in the same Wiltshire farmhouse for all but three months of his 50 years. When his landlord died four years ago the new owner was keen for him to stay.

Like millions of farmers across the world, Mr Elliott has little time to examine the World Conservation Strategy and its advice about enabling wildlife to survive amid agriculture. His windswept downland estate, now dotted with buttercups, is classified under the strategy as "permanent pasture", a type of usage that occupies almost a quarter of the land surface of the Earth.

The strategy, an appeal to governments, was issued by international conservation

agencies three years ago with the help of the United Nations environment programme. It calls on governments to conserve nature before it is squeezed out of existence by man-made pressures.

The strategy defines permanent pasture as "land used for five years or more for herbaceous forage crops, whether cultivated or wild". Bill Elliott's land fits that definition, with one important exception: his landlord estimates that much of his 600 acres has been used in that way for 1,000 years.

While the neighbours' fields are densely planted with corn down to Mr Elliott's fence, his land is dotted every summer with a rich selection of yellow, red and purple wild flowers. Pink and purple orchids grow in the fields and white ones in the wood. Owls, hares and partridge breed on the farm and butterflies feast on the rich carpet of flowers near the dewpond.

Mr Elliott says proudly that much of the land has never been treated with chemical

fertilizers or sprays. The steep down at the end of the farm has escaped the revolution of the past 50 years which has changed much of the grazing downland of England to uniform cornfields. "It is definitely the two world wars that have saved it", he explained.

His land is next to the military complex that centres on Salisbury Plain and lies a short drive from Bulford camp and Tidworth garrison. In both world wars the land was commandeered for infantry and artillery training while all the neighbouring farmers were told to dig and plough for victory.

"Soil is a crucial life-support system", the World Conservation Strategy states. Mr Elliott is convinced that his animals are healthier on their diet of wild grasses and flowers than they would be on grass from one of the commercial seed mixtures. It is almost as precious to botanists as the monument of Stonehenge near by is to archaeologists.

The land has not survived by good luck alone. It is one of 4,000 official sites of special scientific interest and one of only 171 national nature reserves. Its owner is the Nature Conservancy Council, the statutory agency which administers wildlife law. Mr Elliott's home is in effect Quango Farm.

It represents on the ground almost everything that the World Conservation Strategy has demanded through countless documents, maps and speeches.

If the land was sold it would be covered with infant shoots of grain by Christmas.

The 500 pages of reports in the British response to the strategy will provide the next Government with a blueprint for implementing the strategy all over the country, and not just on carefully safeguarded morsels such as Quango Farm.

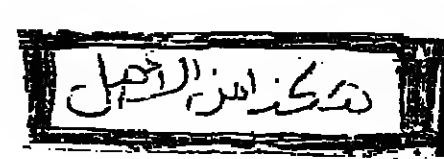
Professor Timothy O'Riordan, of the School of Environmental Studies at the University of East Anglia, wrote the countryside report in the British response. Tomorrow: The inner city

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# Thatcher aides believe even 'rough patch' cannot stop them now

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The rough passage which Mrs Margaret Thatcher warned her party workers to expect to expect to the middle of the general election campaign has yet to materialize.

Tomorrow she will set out on board her A.C. One-Eleven for the second half of her campaign tour, after the natural break of Williamsburg and the Bank Holiday, in the knowledge that only a catastrophe can prevent her winning a second term.

The remainder of her election tour, therefore, will not involve a big change in strategy, of which the overriding aim has always been "to hold what we have".

Mrs Thatcher, who began the campaign by saying that she was cautiously optimistic, will say the same today if asked. The mood in her camp from the start, however, has been of supreme confidence, enhanced by all that has happened since.

Her aides cannot resist speculating on the size of her majority after June 9, but they do so out of her hearing. Mrs Thatcher, the consummate campaign candidate, will not allow anyone to take anything for granted, precisely because she wants as big a majority as possible.

If the polls continue show the Tories with a commanding lead, Mrs Thatcher's tactics this week and next will be to develop the theme propounded in her frank chat with journal-

ists in a press conference last Friday at Newbury race course: that Britain needs a strong government by a healthy majority to regain its once proud place on the world stage.

She admitted then that she was looking for "an unusually large majority, an unusually large authority". But any discussions she permits on what happens after June 9 will be prefaced, as that one was, with the words "First we have to win".

As the Thatcher machine has coasted through Cornwall, South Wales, Kent, Norfolk and Yorkshire, it has seemed that nothing can impede her smooth progress. An observer joining the tour likened it to a coronation.

Locations have been chosen to cause the least political embarrassment and kept secret (in most cases) both for security reasons and to reduce the possibility of demonstrations.

"There is no gain for us in television pictures showing the Prime Minister to be unpopular in certain parts", one official admitted candidly last week.

Whether the Prime Minister would totally agree is doubtful. Her most enjoyable day of the campaign was last Wednesday, when some genuine hecklers unwittingly appeared in her path. She delighted the Tory faithful in Norfolk with two devastating put-downs. "They cannot stand facts. I am giving you facts,

facts, facts", she shouted in Dereham. "Don't get so excited, dear boy", she exclaimed at the Royal Norfolk showground.

Mrs Thatcher is at her best in such confrontations, and relishes them. But it is unlikely that there will be many more of them. After the cautiously worded manifesto, Safety First would perhaps be the aptest motto for the 1983 campaign.

Mrs Thatcher's four organizers have complied with her wishes to see "her own people" in the Tory heartlands, and to help her candidates in marginal Tory-held seats.

The campaign speeches have been expertly constructed for the maximum impact. Aware that unemployment was the most dangerous weapon in the armoury of her opponents, Mrs Thatcher attacked rather than defended on the issue at her adopted meeting in Finchley, presenting the Conservative Party as the best hope for future jobs.

The Prime Minister's closest advisers believe their strongest card to be the Labour manifesto, which she quotes from at every opportunity.

Mrs Thatcher will work for the very last vote because she has a vision of Britain under her leadership returning to a position of eminence in the world. As she said last Friday, she finds leadership "comes naturally".



## Jenkins image under pressure

By Barrie Clements

Mr Roy Jenkins, leader of the Alliance, now has 10 days to get his electoral act together after the strong criticism he encountered yesterday at Mr David Steel's home in Ettrick Bridge, Scotland.

He stood accused, as the Alliance's choice for Prime Minister, of being primarily responsible for an indifferent performance in the opinion polls. An aptura had been detected, but there is a long way to go.

There is little doubt that Mr Jenkins is in urgent need of what his Welsh compatriot would call "hwyl" - while loosely translated means oomph.

There have been flashes of muted extroversion and enthusiasm, such as in Kent, and even more so when he returned to Glasgow last Friday to the scene of his election triumph 16 months ago at Hillhead.

In Kent, the "battle bus" - now ditched in order to speed up the campaign - arrived in one town on a beautiful morning to the strains of the theme from *Chariots of Fire* and a party worker who declared that only the social democrats could bring the sun to Sittingbourne High Street.

In Glasgow, Mr Jenkins energetically jumped a bus queue to take a five-minute ride (someone else paid) and then dived into another queue at the other end with something approaching animation.

But thus far in the campaign, his politics and method of electorology have been characterized by moderation of such a militant and extreme nature as to be open to the charge of impotence. Hands are shaken, but backs remain unslapped; conversations are engaged in, but badinage avoided; a tiny repertoire of gestures are drawn upon, but they never slip over into theatricality. The style is presidential, as befits the former head of the European Commission. But there is no phalanx of guards, no coterie of bureaucrats, and little in the way of tumult.

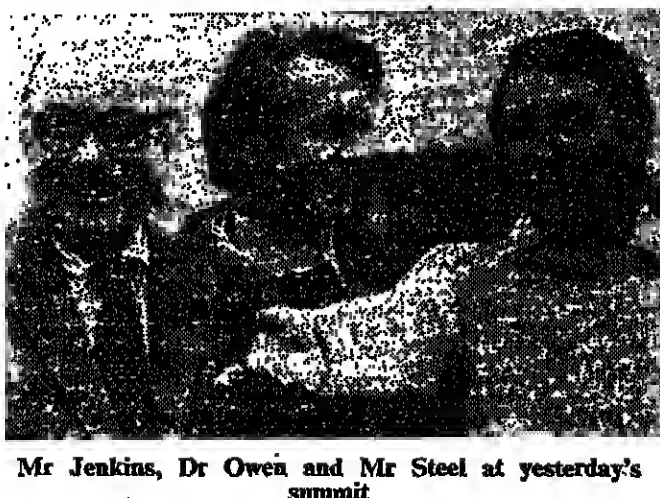
In fact, in Warrington, a constituency where he was defeated before he turned his

attentions to Glasgow, we arrived on the afternoon of early closing day and by the time we got to Rochdale and an ample welcome from Mr Cyril Smith, the shops were closing and the few shoppers left were scuttling home.

There have been other endearing organization problems. The "battle bus" had every appearance of semi-modernity, but in fact was a boneshaker whose equipment - telephone, coffee machine, photocopier - all steadfastly refused to work.

But here has been some awareness of the importance of public relations - the dreaded claret had been banned from the platform by Mr Scargill, and Chianti - but journalists seem to be regarded as a necessary appendage rather than potentially impressive young people with immediate access to millions of people.

For the media, while after all is the main conduit to the electorate, the experience has been largely existentialist. Questions are answered with impeccable politeness, but one is left feeling afterwards that the query and answer were pointless.



Mr Jenkins, Dr Owen and Mr Steel at yesterday's summit

## Labour leaders clarify defence policy stance

Mr Michael Foot and Mr Denis Healey yesterday continued to hedge Labour's pledge to renounce Polaris within the lifetime of a Parliament. The Labour leader said in two separate interviews that he fully intended to pursue a non-nuclear defence policy. But he repeatedly emphasized the key qualification: that a Labour government would have to judge the matter, in the light of circumstances, at the time.

He said in a phone-in on independent radio: "We are intending to get rid of Polaris, carrying through our non-nuclear policy", adding, "of course, the Government must have the power to judge the circumstances as we proceed."

Pressed on the same point during a London Weekend Television *Weekend World* interview, he said that the Polaris pledge stood. "Nothing that I have said, and nothing

that has been said since, alters what is in our manifesto." He advised later, however, that a British government has the right to judge these matters... and he insisted that there was no difference of view between himself and Mr Healey, his deputy.

In an interview with Independent Radio News, Mr Healey said: "All the arguments about defence have shown the Labour Party united, although Mr Callaghan, on perhaps two per cent of the total issue, says that on one particular thing he would take a different view from the rest of the movement in five years' time."

Mr Healey said on May 16, in a BBC television interview, that Labour would only give up Polaris "if we got adequate concessions from the Soviet Union." He has since distanced himself from Mr Callaghan.

## Boost for Liberals in target seats

The SDP-Liberal Alliance has gained significant ground in 20 of its target seats, according to a poll of more than 800 people by Harris Research for London Weekend Television's *Weekend World* (Barbara Day writes).

The poll, taken on May 25, 26 and 27 covered 20 seats where the Alliance has its best chance and where Liberal candidates finished in first or second place at the last election. Each is being fought by the Liberals.

The results were: Conservative 43 per cent (a 5 per cent drop since May 22), Labour 20 per cent (4 per cent drop), Alliance 36 per cent (8 per cent increase) and others 1 per cent.

## Unions go into top gear

Trade union leaders, alarmed by the evidence of the opinion polls, are today launching the second phase of their campaign to win their members' votes for Labour.

The "big guns" of the labour movement are being wheeled out every day to speak all over the country in support of Mr Michael Foot's attempt to unseat Mrs Margaret Thatcher. But privately, hopes are dwindling after what is candidly admitted to have been "a disastrous week" for the party.

Mr David Bassett, chairman of Trade Unions for a Labour Victory, (TULV), will today open the second leg of the union

campaign with a tour of marginal constituencies in the North-west. "We are going to work very hard during the remainder of the campaign to get our message across to trade unionists," he said.

Officials of TULV are expected to produce initiatives later this week concentrating on unemployment.

But it is privately conceded that Labour and the unions still face a credibility problem even among working class people in getting across the party's message that a vote for the Foot programme will be a vote for jobs.

**LATEST OPINION POLLS**

Sample taken May 24/25 by MORI for Sunday Times (election panel)

Conservative	46%
Labour	30%
Alliance	23%
Others	1%

Sample taken by Marplan May 27 for the Sunday Mirror

Conservative	41%
Labour	31%
Alliance	19%
Others	0.5%

Sample taken by Gallup May 24/25/26 for the Sunday Telegraph

Conservative	49%
Labour	31.5%
Alliance	18%
Others	1.5%

Sample taken by Harris Research May 26/27 for the Observer

Conservative	47%
Labour	30%
Alliance	21%
Others	2%

## Campaign speeches

Today's main speeches are:

London: St John's Wood: Michael Foot, MP, Conservative Party, 7.30pm. Hampstead Town Hall, Haverstock Hill, 8.30pm.

Belfast: Denis Healey, Sir Stewart Hall, 6.30pm. Hillsborough Public Hall, 8pm.

Edinburgh: George Young, MP, 7.30pm. Glasgow: George Young, MP, 7.30pm.

Westwood: Harriet Harman, MP, 7.30pm. Wokingham: John Grieve, MP, 7.30pm. Stirling: Bruce Millan, MP, 7.30pm.

Conservative: Newcastle: Lord Maitland, St. Francis Church, 7.30pm. Newcastle: Lord Maitland, St. Francis Church, 7.30pm.

Labour: George Young, MP, 7.30pm. Newcastle: Lord Maitland, St. Francis Church, 7.30pm.

Alliance: Newcastle: Lord Maitland, St. Francis Church, 7.30pm.

Others: Newcastle: Lord Maitland, St. Francis Church, 7.30pm.

## Foot lectures Wall on unity

THE labour Party staged a performance in a wet, cold Bradford on Saturday night that only a party with its back to the wall, struggling to cope with differing internal ideologies, could manage to pull off.

The play, some would call it a tragedy, was in three dramatic acts. The first belonged to Mr Pat Wall, perhaps the best known Militant Tendency supporter, who is fighting the election for Labour in Bradford North, much against the wishes of Mr Michael Foot.

Act two was reserved for the party leader, who for the third time in this election campaign was sharing a platform with supporters of Militant, which in the past he has called "a pestilential nuisance".

The finale was left to Mr Arthur Scargill, favourite son of the Yorkshire left, who sent the audience home happy with some aggressive knockabout rhetoric, largely at the expense

of the "hyenas" of the press. But what the audience had come for, as had the dozens of journalists, television and radio people, was to watch the performance of Mr Wall and Mr Foot. Would the leader publicly endorse Mr Wall; would the two men shake hands?

The answer to both questions was in the negative. Mr Foot arrived on stage in an eclectic atmosphere, accompanied by marching music, after Mr Wall had spoken. The leader shook hands with several on the platform but not Mr Wall, who was furthest from him.

The Victorian splendour of the St George's Hall had echoed to the chants of "Magic on" from sections of the 2,000 audience long before Mr Wall went to the podium. He received a rapturous standing ovation before he had said a word.

His speech was brief, just over four minutes, and fiery. He wanted to see a country where children could be raised in "peace, dignity and harmony".

He sat down to a second standing ovation, led on the platform by Mr Scargill. There were many Wall supporters in the audience who displayed banners from the balcony saying "Vote Pat Wall, Labour. Socialism, the only hope for the future".

Mr Foot spoke about the achievements of the candidates on the platform, there was a brief mention of Mr Scargill, then he turned to Mr Wall to deliver a warning as to his future conduct.

The key part was: "When we are elected as Labour MPs we have to give a fresh undertaking, a fresh obligation to uphold the constitution of the Labour Party, which is a very old and very important element of the way we do our business".

## CONSTITUENCY PROFILE Dundee East

### Testing time for nationalists

**CANDIDATES**  
G Wilson SNP  
C Bowman Lab  
Mrs B Vaughan C  
S Rodgers L/All

The city of Dundee has a long tradition of political independence and voting for individuals rather than party labels. Among those who have represented it in Parliament this century have been Winston Churchill, Michael Foot's elder brother, Dingle (both elected Liberals), the Labour maverick John Strachey and a prohibitionist who stood on an anti-drink platform.

Gordon Wilson, who is defending Dundee East for the Scottish National Party, has been the most recent beneficiary of this tradition. Although the nationalists have never done well in local elections, he has so far held on to the seat that he won in February, 1974, largely through his personal popularity. This time, however, he is likely to face his severest test at the polls.

Mr Wilson, an affable, articulate and impressively well-informed solicitor, who is chairman of the SNP, will be standing on his record as a constituency MP who has done much to promote the image and prosperity of Dundee by helping to get an enterprise zone established in the city and to attract big development projects. He would like to expand the city's docks by introducing a regular passenger and freight service to Germany.

He adopted a vigorous, American-style campaign with loudspeakers on his bus blaring

out the song "Gordon Wilson Cares for Scotland", set, somewhat inappropriately, to the Welsh hymn tune, Cwm Rhondda.

Mr Wilson has undoubtedly been helped in the last three elections by tactical voting by Conservatives and moderate Labour supporters to keep out left-wing Labour candidates. His last Labour opponent was Jimmy Reid, the fiery, ex-communist Clydesdale shipbuilders' leader. This time he may face a more formidable opponent in Charles Bowman, an ASLEF member and railway driver's instructor, aged 58, who is the first local Labour candidate in Dundee East since George Thomson (now Lord Thomson of Monifieth) who held the seat until 1973.

Mr Bowman, who claims to be an authority on the life and work of Robert Burns, describes himself as being on the left of

his party. As a former leader of the Dundee district council he presided over a rise of 150% and had the PLO flag flying over the city chambers.

Locally, he considers that unemployment, standing at over 16 per cent in Dundee, is the key issue.

Although Dundee East looks like being a two-horse contest between the SNP and Labour it would be dangerous to write off the Conservatives' chances.

They have a formidable candidate in Mrs Barbara Vaughan, a lecturer aged 43 who is convenor of the education committee of Tayside regional council. She regards unilateral disarmament, supported by both Labour and the Nationalists, as the key issue and believes she can win if she can dislodge those who have previously voted tactically for Mr Wilson to keep Labour out.

Fighting for the Alliance is Stephen Ronger, A Liberal, aged 33, the accommodation officer at the university. He is a former personal assistant to Mr Dick Tavener, and is campaigning through house meetings at which supporters invite their neighbours and friends to hear him speaking.

The regional council elections last May show the extent to which Mr Wilson's vote is based on personal rather than party factors. The SNP picked up only 19 per cent of the vote, compared with 37 per cent for Labour, 31 per cent for the Conservatives and 13 per cent for the Alliance.

**Ian Bradley**

## CONSTITUENCY PROFILE Bury South

### A gambler's nightmare

**CANDIDATES**  
D. Boden (Lab)  
K. Evans (SDP/All)  
D. Sumberg (C/All)

Locally, the adventures of gamblers would shy away from betting on the Bury South result, a three-horse race in which even the jockeys have little idea of their likely placing at the finishing post.

The new Lancashire constituency consists of three areas: Prestwich, Whitefield and Radcliffe. That they are ruled from two previously held Labour seats should make Derek Boden, the 46-year-old Labour candidate, odds-on favourite. But it doesn't.

At the local elections earlier this month Labour won only one new seat on Bury Metropolitan Borough Council, still leaving the Tories in control with a comfortable majority of six. Labour still fared better than the SDP and Liberals who between them fielded 16 candidates and got nowhere.

It is impossible to analyse any voting pattern in the constituency. Radcliffe is a small but fiercely independent centre, paper mills and engineering works. Both Prestwich and Whitefield are mainly dormitory areas with over half their residents travelling to work in Manchester and Salford, nearby. More than 60 per cent of homes are privately owned.

As in most North-west constituencies unemployment is the key issue. In Bury South it runs at 14 per cent, with only one in eight school leavers able to find a job. There has been an

exodus of young people and only 15 per cent of voters are pensioners.

Mr Boden, a control electrical engineer with ICL, quickly points out that the local dole queue has swollen by 10 per cent in the last four years; that until the Tories took power Bury was proud of being the smallest yet fastest-growing borough in the country.

Tomorrow: Peterborough and Brighton, Kempdown

"People do not move into the borough any more. Instead, they are leaving. I find jobs elsewhere," Mr Boden said. "Property is depressed and schools are slowly emptying."

Mr Boden, a CND supporter, describes his politics as mainstream Labour party. His SDP opponent, Keith Evans, at 27 the youngest contender, claims otherwise. In 1981, he was Manchester shopworkers' union delegate to the conference says he was sickened by the strength of Militant and the behind-the-scenes wheeling and dealing for black votes.

Shortly before the conference he had won a Labour seat on Greater Manchester Council and four years earlier had

unsuccessfully contested a Staffordshire County Council seat, when he was a 21-year-old polytechnic student and Labour's youngest candidate.

He claims that Mr Boden, who was on the same platform as Peter Tatchell to launch Socialist Action, is a left winger and suggests that it is why he was adopted instead of Mr Charles Morris, a veteran MP, who also tried for the Bury South seat after his own disappearance.

Mr Evans hints that the reason Mr Joel Barnett ignored the vacancy in his home area and tried unsuccessfully three times elsewhere was because of his determination to steer clear of a local Labour Party dominated by the left.

Polling Mr Evans agrees, will be close, with the outcome possibly being decided by tactical voting. "People are in a quandary and as yet I think there are about 25 per cent who have still not made up their mind," he said.

Mr David Sumberg, a solicitor, who celebrates his 42nd birthday a week before polling day, is a Manchester city councillor who lost the Manchester Wythenshawe to Labour's Mr Alf Morris. "I think Labour voters are genuinely unsure what to do because they fear the left," he said.

"I believe we might attract many of their traditional supporters. Electors like to see a winner and they do not look upon the SDP as a plausible alternative."

**Ian Smith**

## CONSTITUENCY PROFILE Bury South

### Basic theme reasonable

The time for Mr Foot to have taken a firm line was earlier, when the national executive committee could have insisted that no active Militant supporter should be a candidate. Once an unacceptable is officially endorsed, a party leader is in an impossible position.

That proposition could be held to justify Mrs Thatcher's defence of Mr Foot. She had what might be considered the additional excuse of not being fully in command of the facts - though others might regard this as evidence that Conservative Central Office is not quite so much on top of this campaign as it should be.

Mrs Thatcher's basic theme was reasonable enough: that a person should not be condemned for ever on account of views which he once held and has now renounced. But she seemed unable to comprehend, or at least to accept, the seriousness of the anxieties about how far Mr Fimpegan has undergone a change of heart as well as a change of party. The statement he put out last week was forthright enough, but it would be easier to accept this at face value if he had not earlier deliberately concealed his past in the National Front.

It is unlikely that this episode will do much national electoral damage to the Conservatives. But it is still pleasing when a party leader is sensitive to the convictions of others.

## Geoffrey Smith



### COMMENT

Over the past few days there has been the instructive tale of two candidates. Both Mr Foot and Mrs Thatcher have been commending to the electorate a person with a political background that is by no means to their taste. Mr Foot was on the same platform on Saturday evening as Mr Pat Wall, the Labour candidate for Bradford North, who is well known as a supporter of the Militant Tendency Mrs Thatcher at her Friday morning news conference was defending with some gusto Mr Tom Fimpegan, the Conservative candidate for Stockton South, who has previously stood for the National Front.

Mr Foot met his immediate problem by reminding Mr Wall that, if he was elected, he would, like every other Labour MP, be required to undertake a fresh obligation to uphold the constitution of the Labour Party. This was an ingenious stratagem enabling him both to support Mr Wall in this election and to give the impression of taking a firm stand on Mr Wall's Militant connections. Once elected, Mr Wall would have to toe the line... or else.

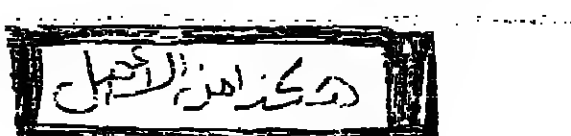
But what does that really mean? It is true that every Labour MP has to sign his acceptance of the standing orders of the parliamentary party. Before that, when he joined the party, he will have signed his acceptance of the Labour Party constitution. So what will be the significance of the fresh obligation that Mr Wall will undertake if he is elected?

### Could not decline to speak

It could hardly be one that would require Mr Wall to change his relationship to Militant. If the rules of the parliamentary party would not permit a known active supporter of Militant to sit as a Labour MP, it would surely be inappropriate for Mr Foot to recommend the election of a known active supporter of Militant.

Perhaps Mr Foot was simply hoping to shame Mr Wall into breaking all connexion with Militant once he was elected. But listening to Mr Wall being interviewed after the meeting it was hard to believe that the future Pat Wall is likely to differ from Pat Wall of the past.

Would Mr Foot have resolved his problem more effectively by refusing to appear on the same platform as Mr Wall? But he could hardly have done that once Mr Wall had been accepted as an official Labour candidate. He was only one of five candidates on the platform at a large rally attended mostly, but not solely, by party enthusiasts. Mr Foot could not have declined to speak to such a meeting and he would have found it difficult to stipulate that one local candidate should not appear.





# Labour ready to concentrate fire on health service cuts

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Labour Party is planning a concerted assault on Conservative policy towards the National Health Service.

Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, the party's shadow health minister, is planning to publish a confidential draft health circular tomorrow which, she believes, shows that the health service could not survive another five years of Conservative rule.

She believes that the document is a plan for the piecemeal break-up of the National Health Service, with recommendations for the sale of hospitals to the private sector, allowing the private sector to run geriatric care, using the private sector to cut long waiting lists, and letting the private sector buy specialized NHS facilities.

The Conservatives manifesto says: "We shall promote closer partnership between the state and the private sectors in the exchange of facilities and of ideas in the interests of all patients". But Mrs Dunwoody said on Saturday that the detailed plans went further than those cautious words indicated. She commented: "We should expect a new Tory government to begin its work of dismemberment by November".

Three other Labour leaders took up the theme in separate speeches on Saturday. Mr Michael Foot said in Bradford: "The Tories voted against the NHS at its inception and they have tried to undermine it ever since. They hate it because it

# Stars come out for Foot

By David Felton

Television and theatre personalities turned out to give their backing to the Labour Party and to Mr Michael Foot, the leader, in an impromptu display of artistic activity yesterday in a north London trade union office.

A reception for Mr Foot was organized by the Arts for Labour organization, which was set up two years ago with the aim of winning support for the Labour Party and which claims to have more than 200 members.

Yesterday about a dozen of the most prominent members met Mr Foot at the new union offices of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS). They were treated to impressions of Mrs Thatcher by Maureen Lipman, who appears in the *Agony* television series, and to a harmonica rendering of "The Red Flag" by Larry Adler.

Maureen Lipman told Mr Foot: "I am here because another five minutes, let alone another five years, of that phony insincere voice fronted by that perspex shield is more than I or anyone else in the country can take."

Melvyn Bragg, presenter of the London Weekend Television *South Bank Show*, said he had been a member of the Labour Party all his voting life because he believed it was the only party which could work



Top of the bill: Arts for Labour members are snapped by Mrs Foot. From left, Clive Jenkins, Larry Adler, Michael Foot, Maureen Lipman and Colin Welland (Photograph: Bill Warburst).

# Thorn-covered olive branch stirs anger

By Paul Rontledge, Labour Editor

The issue of industrial relations reveals the main political parties at their most partisan.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's first administration has presided over the most radical changes in labour law since a Liberal government made the unions respectable nearly 80 years ago.

Her government's most fundamental step was to return to the pre-1906 legal position, opening up trade union funds to civil actions in the courts for damages if their members take "unlawful" industrial action - such as a political strike.

Further steps down that road are promised in the Conservative manifesto. A second-term Tory administration would

## THE ISSUES TRADE UNIONS

Conservatives would be repealed. That pledge appears in Labour's Manifesto as "We will repeal the divisive Tory 'employment' laws and provide new statutory support for collective bargaining. We will also give proper employment protection to women and to homeworkers, part-time workers and temporary workers."

The Shadow Cabinet, TUC leaders and members of Labour's national executive have been collaborating for many months on draft legislation to take the place of the Prior-Tebbit laws. That process is practically complete, and should Labour win, a bill could be introduced almost immediately to restore the balance of power in industry to at least the point at which it was when Mr James Callaghan lost office.

TUC position papers on the subject suggest that Labour should return to the pre-1979 definition of a trade dispute to ensure in principle that any dispute between employers and employees is properly protected from litigation. That definition would include solidarity strikes and other secondary industrial action. Unions would once again enjoy immunity from civil actions for damages in respect of employment.

As may be expected, the SDP-Liberal Alliance takes a position somewhere midway between the major parties, although the unions insist that the policies are only a milder version of Tory plans.

The Alliance ties its proposals for reforming industrial relations to the introduction of partnership in industry, arguing that employee democracy can be extended only if trade unions are made "genuinely representative of their members".

Like the Conservatives, therefore, they would legislate to provide for compulsory secret ballots for the election of trade union national executives, and in some cases, general secretaries. There would also be "trigger ballots" 10 per cent of workers wanted to vote before going on strike.

Compulsory arbitration would be introduced in essential public services, and the pre-entry closed shop would be banned by law. However, the Alliance argues the case for an Employees' Charter Tomorrow: The bomb

# Hecklers stunned by Alliance style

By Michael Knipe

Robin Day's *Question Time* on BBC TV, Pallid because so far, at least, the political panellists have not disagreed with each other as they usually do on the Day programme, and the questions have been mostly less than aggressive.

In Bristol when a lone nuclear disarmament attempted to interrupt, shouting "moral bankruptcy". Dr Owen delivered an effective burst of anger on manners and withered him to silence.

The Alliance audiences have otherwise been the embodiment of reasonableness and polite moderation. "I would quite enjoy a bit more heckling", Dr Owen told *The Times*, almost wistfully.

The Alliance meetings so far have been stylishly staged with the local candidates sitting in a semi-circle at the back of the stage, campaign posters and rosettes providing the only splash of colour.

The question master sits at a desk on stage right. Questions are submitted to the question master on post cards and the two Alliance representatives field them from a sitting position in chairs side by side in the centre.

Whether the absence of heckling or really aggressive questioning has been the result of the new-style system is not yet clear.

However, the meetings have been notable for the wide range of issues raised in intelligent fashion.

What has been particularly striking is the harmonious way in which Mr Steel's replies have knitted in with those of Mr Roy Jenkins and those of Mrs Williams.

# Heseltine's Toxteth

Mr Michael Heseltine spent Saturday afternoon showing off what he called "the caring face of Conservatism" (Rodney Cowton reports). On a visit to the Toxteth area of Liverpool he toured some of the projects to improve the environment and to create employment which were set in train after the 1981 riots, when as Secretary of State for the Environment he was given special responsibility for Merseyside.

He showed, with satisfaction, a council flat area which had been threatened with demolition, now renovated by Barratts the housebuilders; a housing development built on council owned land with two and three-bedroom units available for between £14,700 and £18,000; a new playground in the middle of Toxteth; the large area of derelict river frontage which is being restored, part of which next year will accommodate the International Garden Festival; and a warehouse in the Albert Dock which has been renovated by British-American Tobacco into workshops for very small businesses.

# FLY THE LEADER.

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The Williamsburg summit

Soviet missile threat seen as attempt to influence West Europe

From Richard Owen, Moscow

With an eye on the Western summit in Williamsburg, Moscow has issued its clearest warning so far that if new American missiles are deployed in Europe it will respond by stationing rockets of its own in Eastern Europe and will threaten the territory of the United States directly.

A Government statement in Pravda on Saturday said that because of the "growing threat to the security of the Soviet Union and its allies" Moscow would have to strengthen its defences and develop "new strategic systems".

The Soviet Union wished to warn Nato "with utter clarity," the statement went on, that if the deployment of Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles went ahead, it would take "timely and effective measures" in response.

These included a moratorium on further deployment of SS20s in European Russia, declared by the late President Brezhnev last year, and providing a "counter balance" to American forward-based systems "in arrangement with other Warsaw Pact countries."

Western military experts said it would not be a simple matter for Moscow either to move missiles into Eastern Europe or to take other measures with regard to the territory of the United States.

President Reagan was trying to force Western Europe to turn its back on a history of stable economic and political relations with Eastern Europe, and wanted to ensure not only that new American missiles were deployed in Europe but also that West European countries cut their trading links with the Soviet bloc.

Britain and France, Pravda added, were joining the US in efforts to impose Pershing 2 on West Germany in order to undermine any future reconciliation between the two Germanies.

Mixing its metaphors, Pravda said the Pershing missiles were not only posts in the East-West fence but also "nails in the coffin of national hope", a reference to German reunification.

It added that Washington would like its allies to be dependant on oil supplies from the Middle East rather than Soviet gas, since this would bind them much closer to American Middle East policy.

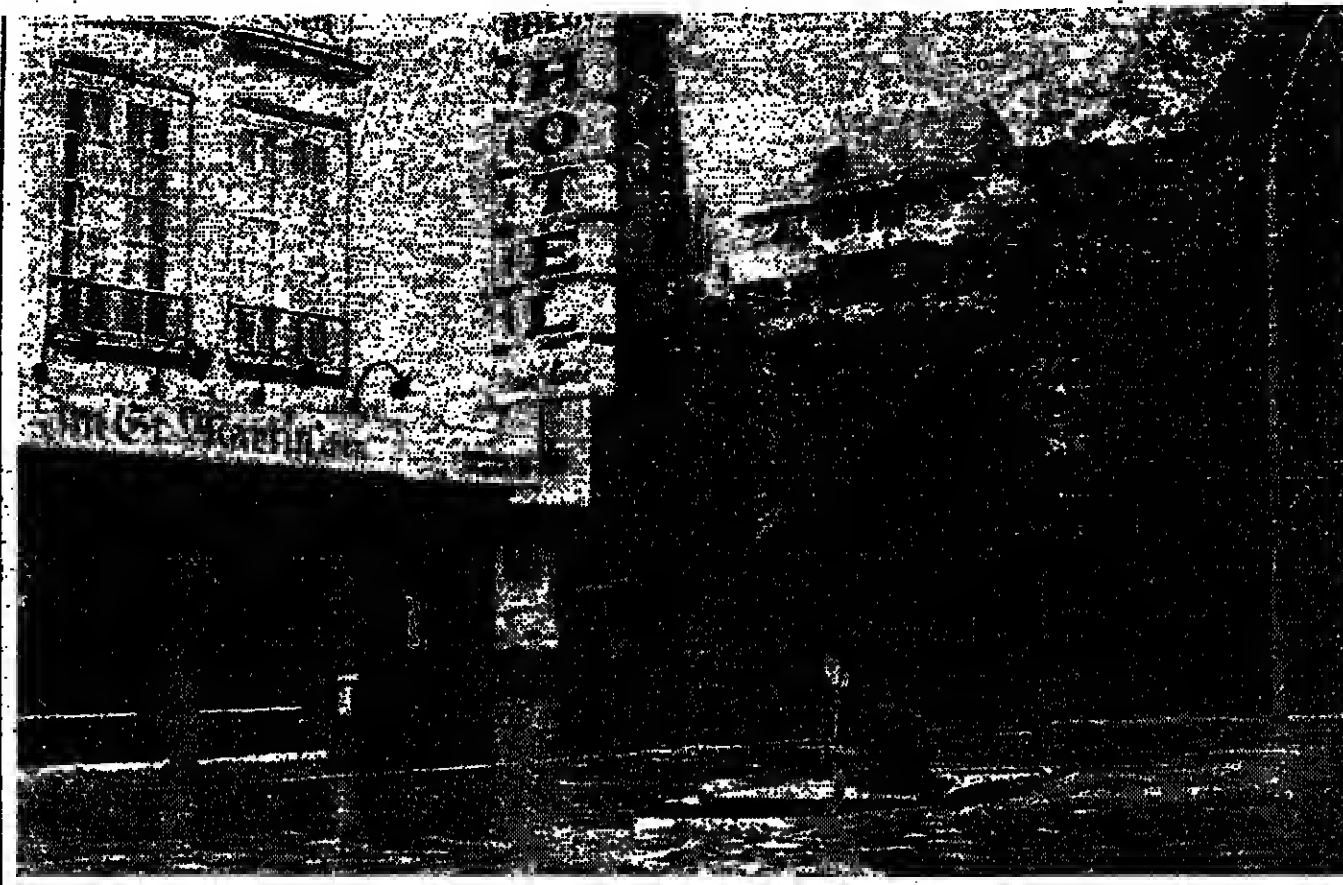
European neighbours with "a palling of Pershing 2 missiles."

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Taken at the flood: A Cologne citizen paddling through the city's streets after the Rhine overflowed.

Rhine breaks banks to flood three cities

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

As the mighty River Rhine roared in a brown torrent through leafy streets and gardens, thousands of families moved up to the top floors of flooded houses in Cologne, Bonn and Koblenz, and emergency services were stretched to the limit evacuating the old and handicapped and distributing food to marooned homes.

With the Rhine already 30ft above normal and still rising after almost a week of continuous rain, Rhinelanders were calculating the costs of the damage which the third flood this year - and the worst since the war - has brought to towns and agriculture from Switzerland to Holland.

The old city of Cologne stood in up to 5ft of water. Trains had to be stopped, streets barricaded against a huge crowd of sightseers, and sandbags piled up in attempts to hold back the water.

In Bonn, the river swirled round one

side of parliament and lapped close to the offices of Bundestag members. Firemen delivered over 17,000 sandbags to communities attempting to dam the flood and keep the water out of their basements and cellars.

The swift current of the swollen river swept away caravans, chalets and trees from low-lying areas, washed away earth and plants from gardens and broke through fences and mounds.

Towns in Germany's main wine-growing districts were particularly badly affected. In Trier the River Mosel reached a record of 10.51 metres above normal, and houses had to be disconnected from the electric grid. The Mosel also brought severe damage to Berncastel, and added to the flooding in Koblenz.

The situation eased somewhat on the Upper Rhine, where record floods damaged harbour installations in Karlsruhe. But prolonged rain on

Saturday night led the emergency services lower down the river to revise their forecasts that the torrent would start to abate today. Yesterday the river was still rising at two centimetres an hour.

All shipping has been forbidden along virtually the length of the Rhine. Trains have had to be diverted from flooded railways and many roads are under water and impassable. Several people have already been drowned in accidents caused by the floods.

The weather forecasters here say the continuous rainfall for the past month is extremely rare. It has led to one of the coldest starts to summer that Germany has known, and threatens to cause huge losses in agriculture and in the wine industry.

MACON: The River Saône reached its highest level in more than a century yesterday, threatening the Beaujolais winegrowing region

Third World casts a shadow

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The shadow of an uninvited guest was cast across the cosy armchairs in Williamsburg this weekend, where the leaders of seven of the richest and most powerful countries in the non-Communist world have been chatting.

It was the shadow of the debt-laden, starving Third World, which was hovering round the economic summit in the hope of picking up some crumbs of comfort from the final conclusions. It was a dark shadow, which intruded unpleasantly into all the talk of how to protect the "fragile" recovery from the dangers of inflation, high interest rates and budget deficits.

The shadow was dark precisely because of high interest rates, which every country says it wants to lower, but without obvious success. Servicing those debts is not only impoverishing the developing countries further, but is using up most of the money they might have had to buy goods from the industrialized countries.

According to accepted wisdom in the European Commission, charging high interest rates to developing countries is simply cutting off the nose to spite the face. If the rates do not come down rapidly, Mr Gaston Thorn, the Commission President, argues, the entire monetary stability of the world could be in danger.

But if the EEC is on the side of the angels in championing this argument, it is fast developing the reputation for heartless, selfish, small-mindedness among many of the 63 countries linked to it through the Lomé agreements, among which are

agricultural produce, known as "Stabex". But "Stabex" has become a bankrupt gesture, incapable of bridging the ever-growing gap between real export income and real income needs.



M Pisan: Ideas meet EEC opposition.

22 of the 31 least-developed countries in the world.

This was made uncomfortably plain earlier this month when the foreign ministers from the Lomé countries and from the Community met in Brussels to review their relationship.

According to Mr Mosese Qionibavari, the Fijian President of the Lomé side, millions were starting because the EEC was refusing to provide even the sort of aid and subsidy it supplies to Poland and the Soviet Union.

He served notice that the forthcoming negotiations for a third Lomé agreement, due to be in place from February, 1985, would be clouded by past experience.

M Claude Cheysson, as Commissioner in charge of development, was the inspiration of the Lomé agreements eight years ago, and he still defends them loyally as "better than nothing".

They have opened up the European market to exports from the developing countries and have provided a system for guaranteeing the prices of their

This is because of bad management and bad techniques as well as bad weather. It is also because many countries have tried to grow cash crops like cocoa and coffee, which Latin American countries can grow more competitively. Meanwhile crops which could have fed people, like maize, have been neglected.

M Edgar Pisan, the new Development Commissioner, has put forward a new approach to development aid, which seeks to concentrate on helping countries to help themselves. But his ideas are running into considerable opposition from EEC countries.

ROME: The United Nations World Food Programme will give \$282m (£180m) in food aid for 23 development projects in 18 countries, according to an announcement here, AFP reports.

The aid will partly substitute the wages of workers in development projects, encourage voluntary work, and feed the hungry, especially mothers and children.

Melbourne voters give warning to Hawke

From Tony Dubosin, Melbourne

The Labour Government received a sharp reminder at the weekend that its honeymoon with the electorate was over when the voters of the Melbourne suburban seat of Bruce reelected a Liberal MP.

Labour needed a swing of only 1 per cent to capture Bruce but instead suffered a swing of about 3.5 per cent against it.

Bruce had been held since its creation as a seat in 1953 by Sir Billy Snedden, a former Liberal Party leader and speaker in the last Parliament, who had a strong personal following. He decided to retire after the Labour victory in March.

The new MP is Mr Ken Aldred, aged 37, an industrial training executive. He defeated Mrs Heather O'Connor, who conceded defeat on Saturday night after 70,918 of the more than 81,000 votes cast had been counted.

The election was contested by most of the mainstream parties - Liberal, Labour, Australian

Democrats, Democratic Labour - plus an independent and two minor party candidates.

Bruce has exactly the sort of electorate that Labour won in March: outer suburban, middle class and in the so-called mortgage belt.

It is also exactly the sort of area that the mini-budget introduced by Mr Paul Keating, the Treasurer, on May 19 has hit hardest, by abolishing the tax allowance for mortgage payments and increasing the taxation on superannuation taken as a lump sum rather than as a pension.

A senior Labour official admitted that the defeat was largely attributable to the mini-budget. He said the party had failed to explain its superannuation tax properly.

The victory was a useful morale booster for Mr Andrew Peacock, the Liberal Party leader. He said "The reinvigorated Liberal Party is on the way back

Ostrich land unruffled by change

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The inhabitants of Oudtshoorn still have their heads as firmly buried in the sand as the nagging and ill-tempered birds whose feathers once made their small rural town in the southern Cape a byword for opulence and easy money.

The wind of change may be blowing, fitfully, in other parts of South Africa but the good burghers of Oudtshoorn are doing their best to keep it out.

The latest threat to Oudtshoorn's traditional way of life has loomed up in the shape of Mr Edward Adams, a mixed-race Coloured, whom the Vatican has appointed as its next bishop there.

From his Oudtshoorn base Mr Adams will preside over a diocese covering some 44,000 square miles and including places as far away as Mossel Bay, George, Worcester, Ceres and Carnarvon. He is one of only two non-white Roman Catholic bishops in South Africa.

Mr Adams has made clear that, after his ordination next month, he intends to move into the bishop's official residence on St Saviour's Street in the heart of a whites-only section of the town.

But Mr S. M. "Seppie" Greeff, the National Party MP who represents Oudtshoorn on the Cape provincial council, insists that Mr Adams must first get a special permit from the G.overnment, exempting him from the provisions of the Group Areas Act.

Mr Adams, however, is adamant that the church "will never apply for this permit. A bishop is a bishop for his people and that's that". In Cape Town, his present base, he has in fact lived for some years in a white area without a permit.

Oudtshoorn has been involved in a number of other incidents in recent months. In one, the police were called in when a party of visiting foreign students were found swimming in the public baths on a Sunday.

In another case *collare*, an Indian businessman and his friends were humiliated by being turned out of the restaurant at the nearby Cango Caves, huge limestone caverns which draw thousands of tourists every year.

Oudtshoorn's boom days were before the First World War. The work fashion for ostrich feathers did not survive the war.

Police keep pressure on Walesa

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Mr Lech Walesa, chairman of the banned Solidarity trade union organization, today faces a fresh round of interrogation by authorities in Gdansk, Poland, as a long-awaited trial of dissidents will be delayed until after the Pope has visited Poland next month.

Mr Walesa was questioned by the police on Friday and Saturday but refused to answer questions about his former advisers, members of the KOR dissident group, who are being investigated under charges of plotting to overthrow the State by force.

The trial of the five dissidents was expected by both dissidents and some official sources to start at the end of March.

There was a delay to allow the dissidents to study the 47 volumes of evidence against them and to work out their defence, a process which has not been assisted by the poor health of one dissident, Mr Jacek Kuron, and by the calling as witnesses of a number of lawyers who could have been defence counsel.

It now seems that the prosecution which said it had completed its investigations almost six weeks ago - has decided to make supplementary inquiries about the exact nature of advice given to Mr Walesa by the KOR dissident.

This means that the trial is unlikely to begin before the papal visit, removing a potential embarrassment.

However, there seems to be no let-up in police actions against underground Solidarity centres. Police have broken up an underground printing shop near the village of Celestynow, outside Warsaw, which was one of the main printing centres for the clandestine Nowa publishing company.

This prints uncensored books - political and literary - and poems which enjoy wide circulation in intellectual circles. The move thus shows that the authorities want to crack down not only on the publication of leaflets and bulletins but also on the very basis of underground culture in Poland.

In another development, a Polish military court has, as expected, found Dr Zdzislaw Najder guilty of espionage and sentenced him to death in absentia.

Dr Najder, an expert on Joseph Conrad, is head of the Polish section of the American-run Radio Free Europe, which broadcasts to Poland and which has been accused regularly of trying to destabilize the country.

Underworld chiefs in two-wheel escape

Avellino, Italy (AP) - Four leading members of the Camorra underworld organization escaped yesterday from a maximum security prison amid a hail of bullets, using a rope thrown over the wall from outside.

One of them was captured when he fell and broke both legs, but the other three jumped onto a waiting motor cycle and sped off. They are Clemente Perna, Pasquale Perna and Circo Starace, all from Naples.

All four are regarded as important henchmen of Raffaele Cutolo, the leader of the Nuova Camorra Organizzata, who is serving a 10 year sentence on Asinara island, off Sardinia, for extortion and drug offences.

Mugabe plans Soviet visit

Harare (Reuter) - Mr Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, returned from a three-country tour of Eastern Europe saying that he planned to pay his first visit to the Soviet Union soon.

Meanwhile, six leading figures in Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zapa party, who were cleared of treason charges last month but immediately re-detained, have been ordered to be held indefinitely without trial.

Nimeiry names southerners

Mr Abel Alier, a former Vice-President and leading figure in the powerful Dinka tribe, was appointed Minister of Construction and Public Works, and Miss Mary Bassiouni, a senior official of the Sudanese Socialist union, becomes minister of state in the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Friends again

President Bourguiba of Tunisia, who arrived in Algiers yesterday on his first state visit in a decade, He was given a tumultuous welcome as he drove through the streets of Algiers with President Chadli of Algeria. His visit comes after the signing of a friendship treaty by the two countries.

Puerto Rican bomber held

Mexico City - Guillermo "Willie" Morales, one of the most wanted men in the United States, was arrested in Puebla after a shootout with police in which two people were killed and three seriously wounded, John Carlin writes.

A Puerto Rican member of the FALN guerrilla organization, Morales was the mastermind behind more than a hundred bombings all over the United States during the seventies.

Lavelle charge

Washington (NVT) - Miss Rita Lavelle, former head of the Environmental Protection Agency's toxic waste cleanup programme, was indicted for contempt of Congress by a federal grand jury, after refusing to testify before a House subcommittee investigating alleged irregularities.

Bodies dumped

Mairobi (Reuter) - Men in Ugandan Army uniform dumped 30 bodies, many bound and with bullet wounds, at Masulita, a village north of Kampala, last Tuesday, according to the Ugandan daily *Alunna*.

Royal return

Tulles, Austria (AP) - A cheering crowd of about 1,600 many of them kneeling, greeted the former Habsburg Empress Zita, aged 92, when she visited the only Austrian village which remained loyal to the monarchy after its abolition in 1918.

Price of failure

Madrid, (Reuter) - Sergeant Venancio Mico, aged 30, the alleged leader of a coup attempt in Equatorial Guinea, has been handed over after seeking refuge in the Spanish embassy in Malabo.

Blackout blasts

Lima (Reuter) - More than 100 people were arrested after bombs went off during a partial blackout blamed by police on the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas.

ANC chief in London, paper says

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Mr Joe Slovo, whom the South African Government believes to be the mastermind behind most African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla activity inside South Africa, flew to London from his operational base in Mozambique immediately after the Pretoria bomb blast on May 20, it was claimed here yesterday by the *Sunday Times* newspaper.

The death toll in the explosion, has now risen to 19, bringing to seven the number of members of the armed forces among the dead. A week after the blast 32 of the injured has not been disclosed.

The ANC claimed responsibility for the Pretoria attack, arguing that it was directed at a military target, the headquarters of the South African Air Force.

The black nationalist guerrilla organization has, however, denied that it planned the lunchtime bomb which exploded in the centre of Bloemfontein last week causing no casualties.

The South African Broadcasting Corporation reported that its Bloemfontein office was telephoned on Friday by an ANC representative in Lesotho claiming responsibility for the blast.

The ANC later issued a statement suggesting that the bomb had been planted by South African agents provocateurs to furnish a pretext for further action against ANC exiles in Lesotho.

Immediately after the explosion the South African police mounted a huge security operation on roads leading into Lesotho, causing long traffic hold-ups.

According to the *Sunday Times*, Mr Slovo, a former white Johannesburg lawyer and a member of the banned South African Communist Party, is concealed in a house on North London.

Israeli troops kept on special alert

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Heavily-reinforced units of the Israeli Army stationed in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and on the annexed Golan Heights were yesterday ordered to remain on special alert for the fourth day running in expectation of a possible Syrian attack. The order was given despite a slight reduction in military tension.

Israel also kept up a high volume of spy flights over Lebanon of the type attacked by Syrian warplanes last week. Israel's military command claimed to have no knowledge of any of the jets being fired on during the morning over Syrian-held territory, as was claimed in Beirut.

Among ordinary Israelis, many of whom fear the country may soon have to go to war again, there was relief at a report from military officials confirming that recent Syrian manoeuvres had ended.

But any optimism was quickly dashed by foreign reports of Israeli and Syrian forces in the strategic Bekaa being further reinforced. Over the weekend, large numbers of Israeli tanks continued to make their way north to deter Damascus.

The special alert begun last Thursday was formally approved yesterday by the Israeli Cabinet, which heard reports from Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, and Lieutenant-General



Marines splash down: US peace-keeping troops landing in Beirut yesterday.

Moche Levy, Chief of Staff, who had toured forward positions including the heavy concentration of tanks now based in the Bekaa.

Any relief at the Syrian manoeuvres was tempered by a mood of extreme caution, which reflected determination to avert a repetition of the disastrous opening to the 1973 Yom Kippur war, when Israeli forces were caught badly off-guard.

One official said: "It should be clear that we have our eyes open, our ears to the ground and are taking every precaution to ensure that we will not be surprised. Israel is watchful."

To deter the Syrians, none of the usual military censorship has been exercised over reports

in Lebanon and are confident that Syria's new Soviet-supplied weapons would perform well in any fresh Middle East conflict, according to sources here, Richard Owen writes.

They said the Soviet Union had a dual aim: to regain a foothold in the Middle East, and to restore the credibility of Soviet arms in the eyes of the Third World.

Moscow has been in close touch with Damascus over tensions in the Bekaa Valley and on the Golan Heights.

KUWAIT: Kuwait's National Assembly yesterday rejected the Lebanon-Israeli accord, saying it was a humiliating surrender document, Reuter reports.

Asylum plea: A South African army officer has asked for political asylum in Mozambique, the official news agency reported here. Apparently the officer had handed himself over to Mozambican border guards.

Machel takes over Mozambique defence

Maputo, (AFP) - President Samora Machel of Mozambique has taken direct charge of the country's defence as part of a government reorganization which affects most of the Marxist leadership.

A statement at the weekend said that the situation in Mozambique, including a South African-backed armed rebellion, "demands that the leadership of

defence be centralized at the highest level."

It said President Machel "takes charge" of the Ministry of Defence, although Lieutenant-General Alberto Chipande retains the title of Defence Minister. However General Chipande also "assumes the leadership of the northernmost Cabo Delgado province, the only one of Mozambique's 10

provinces not affected by the activities of the Pretoria-backed Mozambique Resistance Movement (MNR).

The reorganization comes less than a week after South African warplanes made a lightning raid on a suburb of Maputo, killing five civilians and a Mozambican soldier, according to the official casualty count here. The raid was on

alleged bases of the African National Congress which had set off a car bomb in Pretoria the previous Friday.

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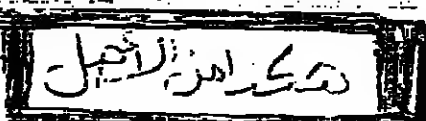
Volta leader stands down

Quagadougou (AFP) - Major Jean-Baptiste Quedraogo, the Upper Volta leader, who announced last Friday that he would be handing back power to a civilian administration almost immediately, has said that he will not stand in presidential elections.

Presidential elections would be organized after drawing up a draft constitution, which Major

Quedraogo said would be done within six months after consultation with all sectors of the population.

Major Quedraogo announced on Friday that the military People's Salvation Council (CSP) which he headed had been disbanded, the troops were returning to barracks and all political prisoners would be released.





# King pays tribute to shot Civil Guards at end of turbulent army week

Spain's armed forces' week, marred by the murder of two Civil Guards in Pamplona and a rash of explosions in the Basque region, ended here yesterday with a parade of 8,000 servicemen and 500 armoured vehicles watched by King Juan Carlos.

Before attending the parade, by King flew by helicopter to Pamplona to attend the funeral of the murdered Civil Guards.

Details of the King's movements over the weekend were kept secret, with thousands of security men on duty and approach roads here heavily guarded.

The security precautions were taken after protests from the Basque extreme left-wing Popular Unity Party, which is close to the ETA terrorists, against the holding of the armed forces' week, describing it as a "military occupation of the Basque homeland. Then a group of young terrorists shot and killed the Civil Guards who were on duty in Pamplona's main post office. The killers escaped.

The armed forces' week is intended to improve relations between the population and the armed forces and to diminish the memory of the Civil War. Rotated annually around the country, the week this year was held in the 6th Military Region, which straddles northern Castile, the Basque country, and Navarra.

A red and gold Spanish flag

was burnt publicly in Bilbao on Saturday and youth groups of the Popular Unity Party held protest rallies in other towns against conscription and the armed forces.

The incidents were evidently designed to coincide with Saturday's "Homage to the Spanish Flag", a kind of trooping the colours ceremony here, in which, after much controversy, Señor Carlos Garaicoechea, the Chief Minister of the Basque autonomous government, participated along with the King and Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister.

The atmosphere for the armed forces' week was hardly improved by Señor José Barrio nuevo, the Interior Minister, who has introduced a costly new anti-terrorist programme for the Basque region so which the autonomous government was not consulted. Nor is there any role foreseen for the new Basque police force.

King Juan Carlos, drawing big crowds wherever he went here, demonstrated once again his popularity. But the same cannot be said for the Spanish Army. The long term of national service - 18 months - is a source of resentment among the young men and their parents, regardless of political sympathies.

The armed forces' week ceremonies were the first held since the Socialist Government

# González attacks American policy

From Harry Debelins Madrid

United States government involvement in the Central American conflict is "fundamentally harmful to the countries of the region", Señor Felipe González, Spain's Prime Minister, said in an interview published here just before his scheduled departure today for a tour of five Latin American countries.

He added, however, that "to be perfectly fair, there is an involvement on the part of Cuba and the Soviet Union in the Central American situation". He said the involvement was "very strong".

Señor González is to visit Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

He denied there was any direct connexion between his present journey - originally due to take place later - and his planned trip to Washington next month, although he admitted that Spain's relations with Latin America are among subjects he intends to discuss with President Reagan.

He said the Reagan administration's role in Central America "essentially damages what we might objectively call a certain need for positive leadership there by the American nation".

The extent of Soviet and Cuban influence in the region is partially the responsibility of other countries, Señor González said, pointing out that the Nicaraguan Government asked the US for defensive military equipment, its request was turned down.

Remarking on the hopes which King Juan Carlos raised among advocates of democracy during his recent visit to Brazil and Uruguay, the Prime Minister said:

"I think there is a certain similarity in the political aspirations of the majority of the Ibero American peoples which we should try to develop... We should make the effort... to arrive at the articulation of a certain common voice, a certain joint presence, on the international scene."

While the Prime Minister outlined policy on Latin America, Señor Fernando Morán, the Foreign Minister, was in Moscow, to sign an agreement on the conditions under which the Soviet Union's big Atlantic fishing fleet may continue to use its base in the Canary Islands, manned by nearly 1,000 Russians.

# US 'to replace Salvador envoy'

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Reagan has decided to replace Mr Deane Hinton, the US Ambassador to El Salvador, as part of his attempt to shore up his Central American policies by putting "his own people" in key positions dealing with the region. The *Washington Post* reported yesterday.

The newspaper said that Mr Hinton's impending departure was revealed a day after the President's assistant, Mr Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, in a move described by one official as reflection "unhappiness with the execution of US policy" in Central America.

It quoted an Administration official as saying that the decision to replace Mr Hinton was dictated both by the fact that he was "tired out after two

years in a pressure cooker" and by the President's desire to staff Central American policy jobs with people of unswerving loyalty to his ideological view of the region.

It also quoted an official as saying the Mr Gerald Thomas, the Ambassador to Guyana, was "a good possibility" to replace Mr Hinton.

Administration officials have denied that Mr Enders may be replaced because he was not tough enough in executing US policy and had differences with the hardline approach on Central America of Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, American representative at the United Nations, and Mr William Clark, the President's National Security Council Adviser.

● PANAMA CITY: The foreign ministers of Nicaragua and Honduras accused each other here on Saturday of obstructing a peaceful solution to violence in Central America. AFP reports.

Señor Miguel D'Escoto of Nicaragua and Señor Edgardo Paz Barmica of Honduras agreed, however, to support the peace efforts of the Contadora Group formed by Panama, Venezuela, Mexico and Colombia.

● MANAGUA: The Nicaragua Council of State has voted to prolong the state of emergency for a year unless fighting on its borders ends. Reuter reports.

● SAN SALVADOR: The El Salvador Government has released nearly 100 political prisoners in the past week.

# Coalition to oppose Mrs Gandhi

From Michael Hamlyn Delhi

Four chief ministers of states not governed by Mrs Gandhi's Congress (I) party, along with representatives of another 10 opposition parties, set up a council at the weekend to coordinate their battles with the central Government.

Invited by Mr N T Rama Rao, the former film star whose brand new language-based political party swept to power in Andhra Pradesh five months ago, they produced a joint statement blaming many of the country's ills on Mrs Gandhi's party. The statement held the central Government responsible for the danger to national unity and integrity.

The opposition leaders included the Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Jammu and Kashmir, as well as officials of the Lok Dal, the two main Communist parties, the Right-of-Centre Bharatiya Janata Party, and Maneka Gandhi, Mrs Gandhi's daughter in law.



# Three hurt in Paris blast

The scene yesterday outside a Paris restaurant badly damaged in an explosion on Saturday night. A container of petrol tied to a bottle of gas caused the blast, which injured three people. According to residents, the restaurant was a meeting place for extreme right-wing militants.

A second explosion occurred in the same area, near the Place de la Bastille, on the right bank of the Seine, but no one was hurt.

Over the weekend, a string of explosions also hit public targets in the French Caribbean department of French Guiana, Guadeloupe and Martinique.

# Britons ready to pay more for defence

From Diana Geddes, Paris

More than half the British and French and three-quarters of Americans say they would be prepared to devote a few days a year without pay to the defence of their country, according to a poll of more than 5,000 people carried out in five countries by Louis Harris for the French *Institut International de Géopolitique*.

The Germans in particular and the Italians have shown a much greater reluctance to contribute to their country's defence.

Although the British and the Americans were the most confident of the five nations about the stability of peace in their countries, they nevertheless showed the greatest support for an increase in their country's defence spending, even at the cost of higher taxation.

The poll, which was carried out in Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and the United States, is being published simultaneously today in *The Times*, *Le Point*, *Die Welt*, *La Stampa* and *Newsweek*. The findings are to be discussed at a two-day international symposium on "war and peace", which is being organized by the institute in Paris at the end of this week.

The symposium is due to be attended, among others, by Dr Joseph Luns, Secretary general to Nato, Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, US Ambassador to the United Nations, Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, former adviser on national security matters to ex-President

Question: Would you favour higher defence spending in your country even at the cost of higher taxation?

	France	Germany	Britain	Italy	USA
Yes	28	19	46	18	40
No	82	79	45	66	57
Don't know	10	2	9	18	3

Question: Would you be prepared to devote a few days a year without pay to the defence of your country?

	France	Germany	Britain	Italy	USA
Yes	54	27	57	44	79
No	34	68	25	44	13
Don't know	12	5	20	12	8

Question: Do you think that the Soviets might decide to start a nuclear war in order to enlarge its sphere of influence?

	France	Germany	Britain	Italy	USA
Yes	32	46	25	40	24
No	63	51	65	38	72
Don't know	15	3	9	24	4

Question: Do you think that the West might decide to start a nuclear war in order to enlarge its sphere of influence?

	France	Germany	Britain	Italy	USA
Yes	13	23	19	28	12
No	73	73	74	46	85
Don't know	14	4	7	25	3

Question: In your opinion, is the Soviet sphere of influence in the world tending to expand, decline, or remain stable at the present time?

	France	Germany	Britain	Italy	USA
To expand	50	39	57	37	56
To decline	34	46	25	44	13
Remain stable	28	51	35	32	35
Don't know	17	2	7	25	3

Question: Are the western democracies capable at present of stopping an expansion of Soviet influence?

	France	Germany	Britain	Italy	USA
Yes	31	30	42	20	33
No	67	66	48	45	57
Don't know	29	2	16	35	10

Question: As far as your country is concerned, do you think that the current pace is steady or fairly firm?

	France	Germany	Britain	Italy	USA
Steady	55	52	41	59	45
Fairly firm	33	45	55	25	53
Don't know	12	3	4	12	2

# THE ARTS

## Galleries Egyptian revival



Early nineteenth century inkbottle smothered in Egyptian motifs

### The Inspiration of Egypt

Brighton Museum and Art Gallery

Historical revival in the arts is usually about 10 per cent history and 90 per cent imagination - at least to begin with. Then conscience and self-consciousness take over, and fun and fantasy are replaced, as often as not, by educational zeal. To judge by Brighton's latest summer show, *The Inspiration of Egypt* until July 17, the Egyptian Revival in Britain ran a more erratic course between these two extremes than, say, the Gothic Revival or the Greek Revival, though sometimes the same people were involved, such as Thomas Hope, Neo-Classical par excellence, who also produced some of those Egyptian interiors which led Sir John Soane in 1809 to denounce "the Egyptian mania" as the latest manifestation of "that monster, Fashion".

Perhaps fortunately, Egyptian

styles did not have that overtone of the sacred which so effectively pushed Gothic Revivalists towards historical exactitude in the first half of the nineteenth century. But then, as the authors of the informative catalogue remark, it may be questioned whether there ever was really something sufficiently widespread and organized to deserve the name of Egyptian Revival at all. The occasional use of sphinxes and obelisks as detailing on basically classical furniture was one thing; the thoroughgoing exploitation of Egyptian architectural forms in the course of normal British building quite another, resulting in the intermittent appearance of curiosities and monstrosities such as Temple Mills in Leeds (1842) and the recently demolished Alstonic Temple of 1901 in Edinburgh.

Consistent revival or scattered eccentricity, though, it makes a fascinating and delightful study. A couple of location watercolours by the first English artist certainly to visit Egypt, Richard Dalton, who went there in 1749, have been unearthed

from the Queen's collection. Fragments of Thomas Hope's Duchess Street town house have been reconstructed. Some very queer early Egyptian Wedgwood is on display, including a "vase" which looks like an ostrich egg crowned with a sphinx head, of no apparent use. 1785, and an ornate inkbottle in the shape of a boat, smothered with Egyptian motifs.

There is documentary coverage of those mid-Victorian wonders the Egyptian Hall in Regent Street and the Egyptian Court of the Crystal Palace. There are once-famous paintings, like David Roberts' *Martinezque The Departure of the Israelites* (done before he had ever been to Egypt) and *Polymer's Israel in Egypt*, with its bold anticipation of Cecil B. De Mille. Brighton Museum itself has fished out of store its own genuine mummy - fast decomposing, by the look of it - and a truly alarming Nineties grand piano in the Egyptian style.

John Russell Taylor

## Opera

### Mozart goes East

Idomeneo Glyndebourne

Glyndebourne is heavy with an *Idomeneo* which it has yet to bring quite to birth. Much of what appeared at the opening of the festival, seemed promising, but there is much too that is inchoate and hard to decipher, particularly in the semi-darkness of some distinctly capricious lighting.

To a small degree, the fault lies in the work itself. As Mozart's first opera for some years, *Idomeneo* drew from him an excess in almost every measure. The great majority of the recitatives are fully orchestrated, and the scoring throughout verges on being too richly figured for its purpose.

For instance, the recitative before the final chorus is Idomeneo's abdication address and the tone is appropriately grave, but Mozart cannot resist enjoying his clarinets and so introducing a note of chirpiness that sounds odd in the surroundings.

However, the problems with this production were not all laid there by Mozart: some of them have been added by Trevor Nunn, whose first work in the opera house this is. Mr Nunn has noticed that he is dealing with a formal work. Accordingly, he has given it a formal setting, and introduced a Japanese motif into the designs by John Napier, and the staging. Samurai line the rear wall at the start, there is a branch of peach blossom hung decorously.

This contributes much prettiness, and I have no objection on the grounds of achronism or distortion. For all I know, the Minoans sat around all day drinking ceremonial teas among their bonais. What do cause difficulties, however, are the references that "Japaneserick" evokes on the lyric stage. Margaret Marshall's *Ilia* because she does the Japanese thing so beautifully, is dogged by the shadow of *Madam Butterfly*, and poor Carol

Vanness as *Electra* certainly does not deserve to look like a *Katisha* strayed from *The Mikado*. Happily she more than surmounts, thanks to her superbly positive interpretation, but the production does not.

As it is, the production has only the superficialities of Japanese style to cover a basic stylelessness. Mr Nunn perpetrates idiocies like having a quartet walk backwards together while singing, or making his chorus stamp forwards and backwards in the opening bars of a number, like primary schoolchildren grudgingly performing a country dance and doing it with unwonted brutality. He also has strange ideas about re-grouping during numbers. When *Electra* begins the recitative before her final aria, for instance, everyone else melts away; clearly they cannot stand the prospect of the old girl doing her thing yet again.

This is, at the least, unfair to Miss Vanness, whose precision and attack are pure, not at all harp-like, and who makes this character a great lady and a virtuoso.

Also excellent is Miss Marshall, not only in draping herself elegantly, but also in producing a constant and constantly fresh supply of singing that sounds unaffected yet dignified as *beffis* a princess, and so alive with musical interest that one never stops to consider how pallid *Ilia* is as a character.

That one does so is due to the monochrome nature of Jerry Hadley's performance. This is his first British role and he may yet be nervous, but the impression he gave was of a healthy, vibrant voice utilized with insufficient care. Philip Langridge as Idomeneo, on the other hand, uses every resource with great intelligence; this is an experienced, musical and sharply-featured performance, and Mr Langridge is so far alone in knowing how to make the recitative work for him.

Paul Griffiths

## Concert

Clerkes of Oxenford St John's, Smith Square

Art cannot help but reflect the society in which it was conceived, and the Reformation, as we know, was a pretty turbulent age. Consequently there is little complacent serenity in the work of a man like John Sheppard, a composer severely underestimated today, whose music often has a remorseless and disturbing density and angularity.

Like the eponymous settings of John Taverner and Christopher Tye, his *Western Wind* Mass was probably intended as an experiment in a leaner, clearer style than the huge festal Masses of the early decades of the 16th century.

Nevertheless, it is not as bland as the Clerkes of Oxenford would have had us believe in their frankly rather effete performance. Their aim was for purity, of course, but Sheppard's pungent harmonies and vigorous rhythms surely demanded, dare one say, a more operatic reading than David

Wulstan's slow speeds and cool approach allowed.

Strangely the same composer's hymn "Jesu Salvator saeculi Redemptis" was given all too brusquely to be anything other than bland. The choir was on safer ground in shorter (and later) pieces by Tallis. "In leinuo et Fleu" has the requisite implied ardour while "O Natus Lux" was graced by simplicity and superbly controlled dynamics.

But at the heart of the programme was Byrd's massive motet "Infelix Ego", a work which is half emotional utterance, half ceremonial, if penitential, magnificence. The choir here held everything in perfect balance, but in Byrd's briefer, brighter "Exalt Thyself" they needed to make a more robust sound. Happily they did so in a pair of celebratory anthems by Gibbons, "Hosanna to the Son of David" and "O Clap Your Hands", while the moving "I am the Resurrection and the Life" was an eloquent commemoration of this composer's 400th anniversary.

Stephen Pettitt

## Television

"A good person, a human being first and foremost," said President Kaunda, glowing with affection. Harrowing the dizzy way Elizabeth II raced her jeep over mountain tracks at Balmoral and then roped people in to do the holiday washing up. Jim Callaghan glowed at the memory of the day he took his weekly chat with Her Majesty in the form of a stroll round the palace gardens admiring the flowers. "The conversation," he told Ludovic Kennedy without giving me either a double edge - "flowed as easily as between you and me." And what is this? "She was as nice to me as she could possibly have been." Kingsley Amis (heavens!) glowing as well.

Elizabeth: The First Thirty Years (BBC 1) underlined more vividly than any royal programme hitherto the awe-inspiring integrity of our present monarch. Commonwealth leaders spoke of her courage in times of danger and of her effectiveness as a peacemaker. Chroniclers stressed her physical stamina as she effortlessly carried on her punishing ceremonial routines while everyone else keeled over with the strain.

"Not intellectual, not greatly stimulated by the arts," said Ludovic Kennedy, "simply conservative tastes"; but his anniversary portrait emphasized both the Queen's grasp of political realities and the way she kept her prime ministers on their toes.

Harold Wilson recalled an exchange of some relevance to imminent events. When the electorate had spoken ambiguously, and the hopeful prime minister trotted round to the palace, "the only test is, can you form a government? Yes, ma'am."

Apart from some fire and brimstone from an American republican, the most substantial criticism came from John Grogan, and that in a statesmanlike way. Why, given the multiracial nature of his kingdom, did the Queen not ensure the presence of some black or brown faces in her entourage?

Confessions of Felix Krull, Confidence Man (Channel Four) was suffused with the scopia glow which has long been obligatory for decadent turn-of-the-century sagas. This was a full-blown Euro-drama whose English elements seemed to have been casually attached as an afterthought; the mannered Edwardian noise of the soundtrack had little to do with the outlandish movement of the lips. Moustachioed officers and maids in deshahis formed the backdrop to the pretty lad's sentimental education. Correct me if I am wrong, but have we not been there before?

Michael Church

### Virtue Besieged

Regent's Park

Undeterred by the brevity of summer's lease, The New Shakespeare Company has opened its season in Regent's Park Open Air Theatre, and this year the leafy curtain has been raised for the first time on opera.

A company called Three Muses Ltd has gathered together a strong cast of young singers, an equally fine group of players in the Diveriment Orchestra, and has hired Anthony Besch to direct and Howard Williams to conduct a double bill of eighteenth century English pastorals.

It all makes for a thoroughly enjoyable evening, made all the more so by the bountiful provision of blankets and mullied wine.

No such solace was available for the performers, who batted bravely not only with falling temperatures, but also with air which swallowed the voice, and a battery of birdsong spurred on by some fine woodwind solos. But the underlining of flute and oboe, Thomas Arne's own sharp-tipped rhythms, and the vivaciously paced recitative helped sustain and project the

Hilary Finch

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PROFILE: David Bowie

Ziggy's rock and role reversal



David Bailey

Sexual indiscretions are not supposed to make public careers, but the David Bowie the world now knows was launched 11 years ago with a confession. Admitting his bisexuality to an interviewer (this one, in fact) who was thereafter never quite sure whether he had dug out a genuine scoop or had been carefully manipulated, Bowie became an object of such fascination that an inauspicious career was spectacularly transformed. Quite how much is apparent this week, when he arrives for the British leg of a world tour encompassing 95 concerts, trailing his credentials as a pop icon, theatre, television and film actor, and, most vitally, the arbiter of a generation's style.

He began plainly enough as David Jones, his real name, following fashions, not setting them. His return to the public stage after a five-year absence filming, recording, rebuilding his once precarious health and reorganizing his business affairs, has impressively reassured his popularity. He is said to be receiving \$1m for a single appearance today at a rock festival in San Bernardino, California. His promoters claim that 500,000 people have applied for tickets to his British performances, which include three open-air shows (July 1-3) at the 50,000-capacity Milton Keynes Bowl. A new recording contract with EMI is worth at last \$12m, \$1.7m of which he received for his first album under the deal. To EMI's relief, that record went to the top of the charts immediately after its release a few weeks ago.

To fulfill his new obligations, Bowie has shown an unexpected willingness to be interviewed and, even more unusually, to confront his highly speculative personal history. To borrow a phrase of his former hero, Bob Dylan, this year he is bringing it all back home.

Recently he revisited his Brixton birthplace to be photographed by David Bailey; his three concerts at Wembley Arena later this week, followed by two at the National Exhibition Centre next week, represent another sort of homecoming in a remarkable, image-mongering career which has provoked suspicion as well as admiration.

Although he will continue to put on the costumes of the various identities he has created and made famous, such as the androgynous Ziggy Stardust and the troubadour of "Space Oddity", Bowie says that at 36 such impostures are firmly behind him. He has turned his back on the trend of electronic pop which he started and which is now in full spate among the latest

generation of British pop musicians. *Let's Dance*, his latest album, has caused consternation among the avant-garde by re-employing guitars and drawing sustenance from the simple, exuberant rhythm-and-blues he copied in adolescence. He calls it "emotionally uplifting" music, a prescription for the times, and the fruit of a newfound personal stability.

Inevitably, sceptics have already declared that he is merely shuffling his pack of aliases, and such doubts may be forgivable, since warmth and wholesomeness have hardly featured in a career marked by brilliant calculation. His admission of bisexuality, apparently truthful and spontaneous, was a novel but risky tactic which set a precedent for the "coming out" of Elton John and other rock stars.

For almost a decade he had been struggling to establish himself: his well-timed pronouncement focused publicity on an unconventional personality and gave impetus to the launch of the album on which his career pivoted: *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*, a feverish, uneven projection of rock stardom in a world awaiting apocalypse. What the world actually awaited was a pop phenomenon for the 1970s, to replace the Beatles and Rolling Stones. Looking abnormally glamorous in skin-tight cat-suit and space-age platform boots, his hair a bright-red stook, Bowie initiated the new rock cult based on glitter and glamour, once neatly defined by John Lennon as "rock 'n' roll with lipstick on" and quickly debased by Bowie's many imitators.

*Ziggy Stardust* delivered Bowie his own stardom, then trapped him in its doomed persona, from which he escaped into seclusion by the first of several strategic "retirements". It taught him that he could manufacture compelling images, and the musical styles to complement them, at will; the discovery has been the source both of his unwavering appeal, and of the common, sometimes warranted criticism that he is an opportunist whose emotions are not always fully engaged. Such imputations, often made by earnest adherents of earlier pop values, undervalue his unexampled sense of rock theatre and his understanding of the music's transient, hybrid nature.

As a musician and fashionable figure, his influence is felt throughout contemporary pop. Just as the "plastic soul" of *Young Americans* anticipated the disco music of the Bee Gees and *Saturday Night Fever*, so his electronic albums, *Low* and

*Heroes*, have foreshadowed the mass popularity of synthesizers. Because of him the punks, the New Romantics and other youth cults have dyed their hair, sung in native, not American, accents, and attempted their own rock and role-playing.

The private Bowie is today quite unlike his cast of characters and especially unlike his old self, to which cling tabloid-headline memories of drug abuse and a free-wheeling marriage to Angie Bowie, a would-be actress who never forgave him for having the greater talent. Now he demon-

strates the poise and cultured charm, the airs and graces, acquired by English stage-actors rather than rock stars.

His own life-story, as filmed by Ken Russell, could be called *Schizophrenia*. His friend Pete Townshend of the Who, a perceptive analyst of the pop world, has said that Bowie invents "characters" because personally he is "in flux, constantly changing"; a view which Bowie now endorses in his new mood of frankness. He recognizes he has overcome basic shyness through compulsive exhibition-

ism, sometimes with unpleasant results. On a concert tour in 1976 he wore stark black-and-whites, like the decadent compère of *Cabaret*: a striking effect which he spoiled by appearing to wave a Nazi salute, then spouting Aryan philosophy in interviews. This invention, known as the Thin White Duke, he now acknowledges to have been a miscalculation, the distortion of drugs and mysticism during the worst period of his life, spent in Los Angeles. It is ironic that he went to Berlin to recuperate.

His insecurity can be traced to his family background. An older, beloved stepbrother vanished into mental institutions. He was not close to his mother. His father, who bought him a saxophone and supported his musical ambitions, died at the moment of his first hit, with "Space Oddity" in 1969; he had at various times run a theatre troupe and owned a Soho wrestling club.

Bowie's own gift for publicity surfaced as a schoolboy in Bromley, south London, when he appeared on the BBC *Tonight* programme protesting the cause of long hair. Next he wrote to the washing-machine magnate John Bloom, asking for money to outfit his rhythm-and-blues group. Bloom supplied a showbusiness contact through whom Bowie recorded his first single in 1964, "Liza Jane", credited to David Jones and the King Bees.

The 1960s were his undistinguished apprenticeship in pop music. He moved uncertainly between imitating Anthony Newley (recording in 1967 a children's novelty song, "The Laughing Gnome") and dabbling as a hippie in mime, Buddhism and the art-lab scene. The mime artist Lindsay Kemp opened up to him a new world, awakening theatrical instincts which were channelled, unsuccessfully, into show-business by a manager-cum-mentor, Ken Pitt, who earned Bowie's admiration by virtue of his friendship with the late film star James Dean. A peculiar consequence was that he sang the first English language version of "Comme d'habitude", which Paul Anka re-wrote as "My Way". More productive was a Bob Dylan phase, from which came "Space Oddity", his best-known song, which he has re-recorded and released several times.

In 1970 it was his good fortune, at least originally, to acquire as his manager an aggressive English lawyer, Tony Defries, a consultant to models, photographers and music business executives. They were complementary. Defries, the deal-maker, gave Bowie the confidence to exploit his ideas. But he also admired the style of the American manager Allen Klein, whose high-handed methods briefly attracted such clients as the Rolling Stones and the Beatles.

Defries signed Bowie to RCA Records, predicting with massive enthusiasm that he would be as big as Elvis Presley, the label's most important artist. But around him he began building his own empire, for which Bowie produced the records of Mott the Hoople ("All the Young Dudes"), Lou Reed ("Walk on

the Wild Side") and others, prompting accusations that he was using these more established performers to publicize himself.

Associating with Lou Reed, the Velvet Underground's influential chronicler of dark, New York street-life, certainly sharpened his own image of *Clockwork Orange* androgyny. But his musical collaborations, approached in a spirit of real inquiry, have generally been mutually beneficial; "Fame" for example a hit with John Lennon in 1975.

It has been a small step from the impersonations of his records to acting itself, and each new role has reflected some aspect of his various personae. In *The Man Who Fell To Earth*, his 1976 debut as a film star, Nicolas Roeg (who had seen his *Omnibus* TV documentary, "Cracked Actor") cast him unerringly as a displaced alien. *Just A Gigolo*, a David Hemmings flop set amidst Weimar degeneracy, traded his fragile maleness against the camp legend of Marlene Dietrich. And in *Baal*, a BBC production in 1982, he was Brecht's coldly amoral anti-hero. Playing *The Elephant Man*, a lauded Broadway appearance in 1980, inverted his handsome image, a trick he accomplished by mime; and in *The Hunger* he became a senescent vampire. Not the least merit of *Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence*, Nagisa Oshima's POW drama, is that he finally learned to act rather than perform. Now he hopes to direct, and is starting with promotional video films at EMI's expense.

He has generally got what he wanted. In January 1975 he wrested control of his career from Defries, though the settlement was punitive. As his own, conspicuously successful business manager, he keeps few employees and relies upon a formidably protective assistant, "Coco" Schwab, the only survivor of the Defries regime. His private travels, which satisfy an interest in ethnic musics, include no superstar entourage.

He lives unostentatiously in a New York apartment and a house near Lausanne with his 12-year-old son, Duncan, known in more publicity-conscious days as "Zowie". This custodianship has allegedly conferred new responsibilities and happiness. "I'm a single parent with a son", he said recently, "and more than anything else over the last five years that fact has honed my outlook generally, and will continue to change my approach to music and whatever else I do. I now have a very direct link with the future."

Michael Watts

**The Bowie story**

January 8, 1947: Born at 40 Stansfield Road, Brixton, south London. 1958-63: Educated Bromley Technical High School. O-levels in art and woodwork.

1964: First single recording, Liza Jane, as David Jones with the King Bees	1973: <i>Aladdin Sane</i>	1976: <i>Low, Heroes, David Live</i>	1981: <i>Under Pressure</i> , No. 1 single, performed with Queen
1967: <i>David Bowie</i> , first album	1974: <i>Diamond Dogs</i>	1977: <i>Young Americans</i> ; <i>Space Oddity</i> (re-issue), first number one hit in Britain	1982: <i>Brecht's Baal</i>
1969: <i>Space Oddity</i> , first hit (No. 5 in charts)	1975: <i>Young Americans</i> ; <i>Space Oddity</i> (re-issue), first number one hit in Britain	1978: <i>Station to Station</i> ; <i>Changes One</i>	1983: <i>Let's Dance</i> , <i>The Hunger</i> , <i>Merry Christmas, Mr Lawrence</i>
1971: <i>The Man Who Sold The World</i> ; <i>Hunky Dory</i>	1976: <i>Station to Station</i> ; <i>Changes One</i>	1978: <i>Just A Gigolo</i>	
1972: <i>The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars</i>		1979: <i>Lodger</i>	
		1980: <i>Ashes to Ashes</i>	

Sound and vision on a disc

"The whole industry is buzzing with compact disc," exulted a leading retailer. His turn of phrase may have been inappropriate - the laser-read 12cm disc is intended, after all, to eliminate the buzz, hiss and scratch that have accompanied record playing since Edison's day - but there is no denying the excitement aroused by the apparently limitless capabilities of the new technology. Invented by Philips in Holland and forged into commercial reality by Sony in Japan, the new disc offers interference-free sound, undamagable surfaces, improved stereo separation and a dynamic range - the difference between loud and soft sounds - that approaches concert hall cootras. Launched in Europe three months ago and next month in the United States, compact disc is expected by the end of the decade to replace the LP as a popular carrier of music. Yet engineers have only just begun to explore the disc's untapped reserves.

FINDINGS

A weekly series reporting on research AUDIO ELECTRONICS

could be exploited to carry more than the present capacity of 80 minutes of music. More intriguingly, though, they could house a variety of other signals. Sony has begun recording experiments with still-frame pictures flashed on to a screen built into the compact disc player as accompanying illustrations to music. So far, they have been able to broadcast one image every two seconds, but pundits do not rule out the possibility that compact disc could be adapted to carry moving pictures or video.

**Striding Walkman**

The makers of personal stereos are scaling ever greater heights of sophistication. Sony's new Walkman Professional is the first recording machine to combine genuine portability with acceptable Dolbyised sound quality. Unfortunately, it requires four batteries which last only 3½ hours, leaving little scope for extended out-of-doors recording. It can be attached to

the mains, of course, but then it won't walk very far.

The Sports Walkman FM, to be launched in June, is the first waterproof Walkman, all shiny yellow plastic and airtight rubber hinges. Not to be used while scuba-diving, they advise, but handy enough to survive a splashing on the beach or a drenching on an English golf course. It emerged unscathed, too, from a swift plunge into my bathroom sink.

The radio reception is especially impressive, but those clever folks at Sony appear to have overlooked the British peculiarity of broadcasting all major sports programmes on medium wave only.

**Simple sounds**

The revolution that the Beatles wrought upon recording techniques in the 1960s is about to be reversed by compact disc. The Beatles were the first to demand multiple layers of sound; however, the orchestral sound in *A Day in the Life* drifted out of sync in a number of places as they had to record it on two unsynchronised four-track machines. Nowadays, no

studio could survive without a 48-track console and multi-track recording has become commonplace.

But several best-selling LPs have sounded ridiculous on compact disc, whose extraordinary verisimilitude has shown up the artificiality of close microphone placings and elaborate mixing techniques. Experience has taught the engineers to revert to the simplest of techniques, in some cases using not more than five microphones for a Mahler-sized orchestra.

**Hearing in 3D**

Not all good tidings come from the East. The latest breakthrough in surround-sound is the brainchild of an Italian, Hugo Zucarelli. A system he calls "holophonics", aims to create an illusion of three-dimensional sound in music heard on headphones - which usually appears to the listener to have emerged from a point within his or her skull. Those who have heard Zucarelli's trials, recorded with Pink Floyd and the London Symphony Orchestra, were impressed by the illusion not only of multi-directional sound, but of height and depth as well.

Norman Lebrecht

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THE TIMES DIARY

I'll ask Bob

When familiarity with our politicians turns to contempt, there is a simple cure: turn them inside out and upside down. Michael Curl has done this most adroitly in his dictionary of anagrams, published in paperback this week. The PM, as Saatchi knows, can be metamorphosed into "The great charm"

Why?

Election night will bring the resurrection of the flop of the century - the show that closed before it opened, losing £1.5m of backers' money. In March, when it was cancelled by Michael White on the grounds that it just would not work, the show for which the Piccadilly theatre had been transformed into a cabaret restaurant was called 'New is Y, and has cost a further £500,000. It still has the Italian mime Arturo Brachetti, but White's name is no longer on it.

Robert Worcester, of the MORI opinion poll, organizes a competition for the political journalist who most closely predicts the date of the general election. It was won this time by Adam Raphael of The Observer, who picked June 17. Elections are held on Thursdays. June 17 is a Friday.

Clown costume

My political challenger today is, I am afraid, rather frivolous, belonging as he does to the Fancy Dress Party. A. H. Crookford, who is contesting Darford, has produced a lengthy and excruciating manifesto. Reduce the size of unemployment figures, he suggests, by using smaller print, and the length of patients' waiting lists by increasing prescription charges to 5,000 volts. He promises to act swiftly, to stop the falling pound: "If one lands anywhere near us we will pick it up immediately."

Bachanalia next?

Marathons are becoming more musical. On Saturday Oxford Pro Musica performed a Beethoven of all nine Beethoven symphonies conducted by Yannis Daras. Next Saturday it is Brahms's turn at the Royal Festival Hall, with six hours of chamber music played in three sittings by performers of nine nationalities, and season tickets available to be known as Brahms' Rovers.

Disc slips

The latest technological hazard for children is that they might swallow the small disc batteries used in cameras, watches and hearing aids. More than 1,000 cases a year are reported in the United States, according to the journal of the American Medical Association. The conclusion from a series of reports to that publication on battery-swallowers' syndrome is that if the battery sticks in the oesophagus, damage or death may result from leakage of chemicals, but if it reaches the stomach it will keep going without creating a hazard.

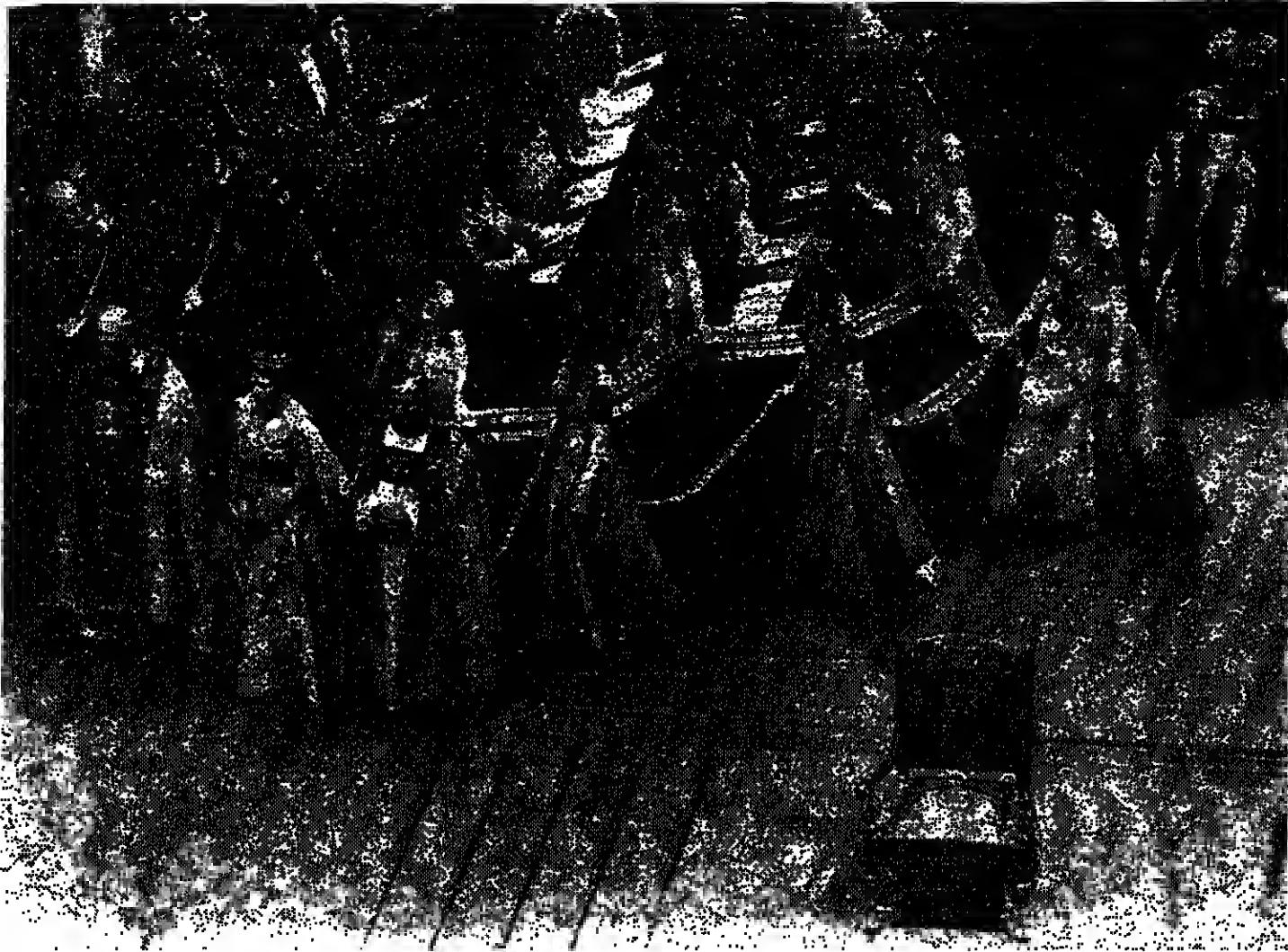
Charge!

Despite an admission fee of £25 a head, a one-day seminar next month at Apsley House on Wellington as a general has sold out. This may have something to do with the presence of the military historians John Keegan, author of The Face of Battle, and Corelli Barnett, redressing the balance after his rather successful book on Napoleon. The seminar is the first in a series of events at Number One, London - this one takes place in the newly restored Waterloo Galleries, where else? - designed to focus on the Duke's place in military history. The Friends of the V and A, to whom any profits will go, also want to see Apsley House become a living memorial, rather than merely a museum of the decorative arts.

David Petri is bats about cricket, to the extent that he has lashed out £17,000 to publish this weekend his own novel, Horton's Test, which Christopher Martin-Jenkins says is the first piece of good cricket fiction since before the war. Purchasers get not only the paperback book but a leatherette spine which slips sportily over the covers "to enhance its bookshelf appearance"; a bat-shaped bookmark; and a chance to enter a competition for seven days in the cricketing island of Barbados. The way to the book in the shops is signed by a size two cricket bat on display.

PHS

The Queen was crowned 30 years ago this week. Brian Barker, who was closely involved, recalls the preparations for the big day



June 2, 1953: months of painstaking effort come to a climax as the Queen walks in procession to her coronation

Vivat! Vivat! The day that grime gave way to glory

Some impressions never fail. My recollections of the events in which I was involved 30 years ago still seem as vivid as on the day they were formed.

I recall standing in Westminster Abbey on the evening before the coronation. The months of preparation were over, and the grey Sanctuary had been transformed into a place of golden light. The raised platform of the "Theatre" was covered in a golden coloured carpet, surrounded by frontals of woven cloth of gold and with the magnificent Abbey plate gleaming on the high altar and displayed on a table below the royal box. Facing the altar was the ancient coronation chair with the stone of destiny below the seat and beyond was the raised dais of the throne with its deep scarlet tapestry.

Once again, as for nearly 900 years, the Abbey had been prepared for another monarch in the long line of kings and queens who had been consecrated and crowned within its walls. That evening the Abbey seemed to be wrapped in a hush of expectation.

As a Gold Staff Commander I would have to spend many hours in that sanctuary the next day. I turned and walked through the choir screen to where the Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, would receive the Abbey keys from the Dean, Dr Alan Don. For the next 24 hours, the Abbey would be in the custody of the Earl Marshal. A few moments later a small black van with a single police car entered Dean's Yard. It carried the most precious and fabulous gems in the world - the Crown Jewels with the crowns, swords and sceptres which tomorrow would move in scintillating splendour through the complicated rituals of the ceremony. The Dean, the chapier and choristers had formed a procession through the Abbey to escort the royal regalia to the old Jerusalem chamber where they were laid out on a long table under the watchful eyes of the yeoman warders from the Tower of London. For centuries the regalia had been brought back to the Abbey on the eve of the coronation.

There had been mistakes and confusions in the ordering of past coronations. That of George III had been a disaster. Queen Victoria had not been amused by the manner in which her service had been conducted. She wrote in her diary that "the Archbishop was confused and puzzled, the Bishop of Durham could tell me nothing and the Coronation ring had been forced on the wrong finger, causing her intense pain. Less serious blunders had occurred even at the coronation of George VI.

We had been summoned to a meeting with the Earl Marshal in the Abbey in December before the work began. He had taken every detail of the preparations into his grasp. For example, he was concerned that all new timber should have been carefully seasoned. "The Queen ascending the throne to the sound of groaning timber might be regarded as bad an omen for her reign as the jewel which fell from the crown of George III at his coronation, and which was later regarded as presaging the loss of the American colonies," he remarked.

He set aside the whole of May for rehearsals. It was as well he did. It was difficult for elderly peers to follow a complicated pattern of movements, wearing unfamiliar coronets and with long robes sweeping their heels and in a few cases holding a heavy sword upright beneath their arms. Difficulties increased when the assistant bishops joined the rehearsals. Each bishop had his own idea of a liturgical pace. After several fumbling starts the Earl Marshal's voice came loud and clear. "If the bishops do not learn to walk in step we'll be here all night." They got the message.

One who went off for a short holiday before a rehearsal felt the duke's firm hand. The Earl Marshal sent a police car to bring him back.

He came into the Abbey, pink with indignation, his chaplain carrying his hand luggage. "Most humiliating," he protested. "Escorted from my hotel by police. What on earth will people think?" His protest faded when he saw the gaitered figure of the Archbishop.

There were problems with a few peers whose attendance at rehearsals was also obligatory. "If you are not at the rehearsals, you will not be there at all," the Earl Marshal told one peer protesting that he knew it all. There was not the slightest doubt he meant what he said. The rehearsals were very complex, precariously balanced, entirely dependent on the precise timing of the several hundred people taking part. That everything went with great precision was due to the superb organization of the Earl Marshal and officers of the College of Arms.

There was however, a slight fault in my own ministry's arrangements. On her arrival at the Abbey, the Queen would retire briefly to a room in the Annex while the head of her procession moved down the nave. Her maid, inspecting the arrangements, found we had omitted to supply the one item she would require on that important occasion - a mirror. We hurriedly supplied one.

My ministry had been drawn into the preparation since the Minister of Works was also Master of the Queen's Works in lineal descent from Gundulf, the weeping monk of Rochester, who had begun the Tower of London for William the Conqueror. That responsibility for the upkeep of royal palaces and the preparation for state occasions had continued down the centuries. Until the coronation, the chief preoccupation of the ministry had been supporting Harold Macmillan's drive for 300,000 houses and an atomic energy programme. Overnight we suddenly seemed to have been dragged back centuries.

A small book was placed in my hands written by an Abbot of Westminster in about 1307. It was the Liber Regalis - the Royal Book, and the first sentences translated from Latin were: "This is the order according to which the King has to be crowned and anointed. First, there shall be prepared a stage raised between the High Altar and the Choir..."

That we succeeded in balancing the requirements of tradition with modern building technology was mainly due to our minister, David

Eccles - now Lord Eccles. He was a fine administrator, he had taste, style and imagination. He felt that here was a great opportunity to lift people out of the bleakness of a post-war era where meat, eggs and sweets were still rationed, and where the bomb scars in London were still showing. He told us: "The traditions and ceremony are our inheritance from the past, but it is our duty to express in colour and design the age we live in and the Queen who will be crowned."

He wanted to renovate London in the brightest colours. He had the wartime grime cleaned from the public buildings on the professional route. The ministry's decorations of the royal route were the gayest London had ever seen - no one will ever forget the great slender arches spanning the Mall with their suspended crowns and the lions and unicorns in their fantasy dances against the sky.

Pressmen, broadcasters, filmmakers turned to London as a bright light in a world darkened by the Korean conflict and the cold war. Eccles said to me: "For every thousand who will watch events in London in June, there will be a million who will watch through the eyes of the press, the film and the TV screen. We must be sure that what they see brings credit and dignity to the Queen and our country."

One of our problems was meeting the requirements of the BBC for a live recording of the ceremony. Television in Britain was still the growing infant of the media with a mere 1.5m licences compared to the 11m radio listeners and the worldwide audience for newsreels and colour films.

Why bother, it was asked, with the BBC needing space for its cameras and high demands for special lighting. The first time we set up lights in the Abbey to BBC requirements the result was an intolerable blaze of light. "Impossible," exclaimed the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Opposition to the BBC making a live broadcast gathered force. Many were genuinely concerned that the live broadcast would impose an extra burden on the Queen during the long ceremony. There were also important participants in the ceremony who feared that their slightest slip would be instantly transmitted to the watching millions and there were some who were horrified by the very thought of the

intrusion. "It is absolutely intolerable," said the Marquis of A. "That chaps in pubs should watch the Queen when their third pint of beer is in their hands."

The opposition found its final expression in the decision of the Coronation Joint Executive Committee when the Earl Marshal announced that "live television would be restricted to the procession west of the choir screen but that a film of the ceremony would be made available to the BBC". I told him that the decision would create an uproar in press and Parliament. Indeed it was so. An angry Winston Churchill rose in the House of Commons to state that the arrangements would be reviewed. A chastened BBC returned to the Abbey a few weeks later with more modest lighting needs and from there went on to its own crowning triumph of Coronation Day.

Thousands of media men poured into London to use the elaborate facilities which had been provided to get their accounts back to their countries, including the two Canberra bombers which carried recordings of the ceremony across the Atlantic for the US and Canadian networks. David Eccles did much to promote the atmosphere of gaiety, colour and rejoicing which turned London into a carnival city which the world came to see. I shall always remember the crowds dancing in Trafalgar Square to the rhythms of Jamaican drums and the voices of thousands singing "Wonderful, Wonderful London Town" as the rain cascaded down.

Before daybreak the next day, I was in my place in the Abbey. I had to deal with hiehes and alarms. For example, an enclosed position had been constructed behind the tombs on the north side for film and TV cameras to record important parts of the ceremony including the crowning. During the night a thick coat of dust had filtered down onto the glass apertures, and the camera operators were in despair. I told them to save their tears and give me their handkerchiefs. Below the camera positions were seated three rows of bishops. When I explained the situation their astonishment changed to amusement. I passed along the handkerchiefs and one by one the bishops rose to clean the glass panes above their heads. Without their help the world might never have seen the colour film and TV records of the day from that position.

A white light came on at my elbow to tell me that the Queen in her coach had left the palace. A surging roar in the distance was drowned by the drums and trumpets as the first procession reached the Sanctuary. The rest of the pictures of that day are in my mind like a film to be recalled at will. For me, the most arresting image was not the hushed solemnity of the crown regalia in the Archbishop's hands, but the moment when the voices of the choir were still and the Queen came through the choir screen to the triumph and shouts of the Westminster schoolboys. "Vivat Regina, Vivat Regina Elizabetha, Vivat Vivat Vivat!" Before us was the young Queen regal, in a magnificent gown covered in thousands of pearls.

The events that followed have been captured on colour film and TV - some to be shown this week. The solemnity, the colour, the dazzling spectacle of that occasion are on those records, but I feel they lack the vibrant excitement, the sense of participation and the rejoicing that filled the Abbey. At the end of that long day I read what another civil servant, Pepps, had written in his diary of the coronation of Charles II.

"I can say that beside the sight of these glorious things, I may not for the future trouble myself to see things of state and show as being sure never to see the like again in this world".

After 30 years that is also my own opinion.

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They also served... men from the ministry put the finishing touches to the "Queen's Beasts" adorning the Abbey staircase

Morality, hijacked by the Tories

JUNE 2 1983

Barbara Castle

Labour is fighting a civilized campaign against great odds, but it has made one big mistake. It has failed to put its case in a philosophical context, instead of a purely material one. As a result it has enabled Mrs Thatcher to monopolize the moral argument. From the start she had one hope: to deflect the attack on the unpopular results of her policies by transferring the guilt for her own failures on to her listeners. She does it by presenting herself as the guardian of stern "values", which alone can purify a gone-soft society. And, of course, on questions of defence she bangs the simple patriotic drum.

It is a technique designed to leave the Labour Party arguing about details instead of principles. It should, of course, have been the other way round. For the issues in this campaign are indeed moral ones.

Mass unemployment, for instance, can never be a purely economic matter. It undermines the foundations of our society. No country can save itself from decline, spiritually even more than economically, if it tolerates the sense of hopelessness among its people which comes from uselessness.

Yet that mood, which is growing dangerously, is grist to Mrs Thatcher's electoral mill. She was even claiming satisfaction on TV the other day that the majority of young people in this country, including those who are out of work, are satisfied with the lot she offers them and will vote for her. If that is true, she has lowered the sights of a whole generation.

The accusation would not stand, of course, if she could hold out any hope that the "purifying" process was coming to an end. But that she cannot, and will not, do. What Labour should be hammering home is that unemployment is politically necessary to her type of society - one in which the workforce is cowed into submission, in keeping with the "Victorian values" she invokes.

In the same way, we are in danger of letting her ride away from the essentials of the nuclear argument. To say that the Labour Party does not wish to defend this country is, of course, a malicious fallacy. Labour's whole case is that defence loses its meaning when the use of nuclear weapons is involved. We are in a new ball game because never before in human history have we been preparing to make war with weapons which would bring global and irreversible catastrophe, to ourselves as well as to the enemy.

Tomorrow: John Pardoe

Robin Marris

Charting a path to recovery

Although the Conservative Party has much to say about inflation and Labour much to say about unemployment, neither is proud to emphasize the fact that Britain has been declining economically, relatively to other countries, for many years. Their reticence is hardly surprising, since both, in different ways, are partly responsible. In sharp contrast, the Alliance faces the facts of the nation's decline much more frankly, and quite explicitly claims to have policies genuinely aimed at reversing it. But its claims are frequently countered by the reply that the policies are reheated versions of old pro-growth policies which have failed in the past.

The evaluation of this controversy requires a distinction between "macro" and "micro" economic policy. Macro policy is concerned with demand, inflation and unemployment. Micro policy with detailed policy toward industry. Far from having bland or vague policies on the latter, the SDP and the Liberals have precise prescriptions in profession, and these are their strongest economic policies.

They emphasize the existing deficiencies in industrial and vocational training and education and propose specific reforms of the apprenticeship system. For the greater encouragement of industrial competition, they suggest further discouragement of mergers, more practical assistance to small business and the reduction of bureaucratic obstacles to those businesses. The link between economic growth and education is emphasized.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Industry Secretary, recently defined the aims of his Department as "a profitable, competitive and adaptive productive sector in the United Kingdom". Worthy motives indeed, but nowhere did he mention the need for better industrial education and planning. Why was it recently necessary for the Director of the National Economic Development Office to remind the Government that this country spends only half the European average on vocational training?

Having said all this, I have to concede that my own economic research has also sustained me in serious misgivings about Alliance "macro" policy, mainly because it seemed to me to run away from the problem of the unions. The specific policies on union reform are blatantly schizophrenic. On the one hand they pronounce the fundamental role of unions in harmonious industrial relations; on the other they make detailed proposals which, if put into law, would make Mr Tobitt look like a workers' hero (for example the closed shop, accepted in principle, would in practice be effectively banned by a scheme requiring validation by regular secret ballots of workers involved, requiring two third majorities from all those entitled to vote).

Michael Heseltine's parrot talk about "deterrence" will no longer do, because the life between having nuclear weapons to deter and having them to attack is wearing perilously thin. If, as he declares, their possession by the West has kept the peace for 34 years, then we already have enough of them to deter. What both sides are now pursuing is nuclear superiority.

And as the consequence of the new weapons that are being developed grow more terrible, so that the arrival of even one enemy missile would wipe out half of Britain, the search for nuclear superiority is increasingly seen to lie in finding a weapon that will knock out the enemy before he can retaliate. So we are right into the heart of the moral dilemma which Mrs Thatcher refuses to recognize: would we be willing to use nuclear weapons first?

In such a situation, the acquisition of new nuclear weapons has become the alternative, not the road, to multilateral disarmament. You cannot openly accuse another power of planning to make war on you, and then expect it to lower its guard. The need for a non-nuclear strategy has become imperative in our own defence, as independent groups of military men have urged. But who is going to start to create the non-nuclear psychology if Britain does not give the lead?

That is the essence of the case for nuclear unilateralism. A majority of people probably now agree that the installation of cruise missiles and the acquisition of Trident would put us in greater peril than we are in now. It is the pursuit of overkill that will lead to war, for two can play that game. Britain's abandonment of unnecessary nuclear weapons would be a signal that the great powers could pull themselves back from the brink, a signal for which, unless we believe in devils, the Soviet Union itself is probably waiting. In such a situation, the argument about Polaris is largely irrelevant.

Labour's contribution to multilateral disarmament is not to trade weapon for weapon, but to create a new atmosphere and to proceed from there step by step towards the creation of a non-nuclear weapons world. It is time someone tried.

The author is Labour MEP for Greater Manchester, North

Robin Marris

Charting a path to recovery

On wage inflation they have a battery of proposals which are quite unworkable without union cooperation, which they blithely believe could be obtained effectively in exchange for a promise to reflate. The truth is that the SDP in particular contains many activists who are strongly influenced by it. It is also strongly influenced by "wets" who think quite otherwise.

I believe that so long as they fail to tackle this, any alternative government that tries "another way" of recovery will fail for the same reasons that all the others failed. "Free" collective bargaining and Keynesian economics are simply unworkable, and no amount of tinkering can make them otherwise.

But I do believe that if Britain had been governed continuously for the past century by the kinds of people and policies now represented in the Alliance, we should now be not only a much richer nation but a much happier one. I also believe that brisk economic growth is possible for us in the future; and that a major precondition is that the Alliance does quickly succeed in becoming the strong alternative government.

The reasons for such unfashionable optimism lie in the very historical circumstances of our decline. From the Second World War till the early 1970s the western capitalist mixed economies (meaning all countries from, say, Italy upwards in per capita income) experienced spectacular economic growth at about 4 per cent per annum per head of population. Inside the average the countries which started from the bottom end of the league table, tended to grow faster than the others. There was a general impression that the whole system was catching up the United States.

Britain was not originally at the bottom of the league table; in 1955 we were second in Europe and fifth in the world. But we were a long way behind the United States. What should have happened is that as other countries caught up with us, we should have caught up with the US. As everyone knows, almost the opposite occurred; the other countries not only caught us up but overtook us. A quarter of a century on, we are now bottom but one in Western Europe, and also bottom but one out of the top 20 countries in the world.

The causes of Britain's decline are hotly debated, so a long way back, and are not exclusively economic. It is generally agreed that it is a joint product of many ingredients involving class, education, management and labour. But that as may, it remains a fact that if we could fall behind, we have potential for catching up.

The author is Professor of Economics at Birkbeck College, University of London.





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## HOUSE PROUD POLITICS

Conservative politicians have often had a clear eye for politics in housing. When the state first intervened to build homes for heroes, Lloyd-George's Unionist coalition partners supported public provision on the ground that it would settle social discontents. A generation later, Lord Swinton minuted Churchill's Cabinet about the practical consequences of the policy. He warned of hives of socialist voters bunched together on council estates. Four years ago Mrs Thatcher acted on the warning, sensing political opportunity in the break-up of the estates and the transmutation of council tenants into owners.

Threading through Labour areas there was to be a new seam of owner occupier, people with a territorial stake, social stability, a respect for inheritance rights (and as a bonus, a disposition to vote Conservative). Has she not been proved right? Her government had banged mercilessly on the drum of "right to buy" and gloried in those mock-Georgian doors replacing municipal drab. The latest arithmetic of discounts for tenant purchasers may make questionable financial sense for the taxpayer, but the right to buy theme makes undoubted political sense for the Conservatives.

Unfortunately owner occupation does not make a housing policy, nor do bargain basement prices for public assets suggest a willingness to begin the much needed overhaul of housing finance. Victorian values are one thing; the growing dilapidation of the country's extensive tracts of Victorian housing is another.

We are, by any international test, a nation of convinced house purchasers, fixed on that distant goal of ownership in fee simple, often showing a yeoman distaste for landlordism public or private, and prudently aware of the fiscal favouritism shown to that form of tenure. Yet this fact - reflected even in Labour's manifesto promise to extend home ownership - makes pressing some considered statement on the future shape of the rented sector, where 45 per cent of householders are still accommodated. All the manifestos fail to provide one. Renters are the poor, dependent on state support and lacking the wherewithal or

motivation to buy, the elderly (who may have been owners but need the specialist housing and support which councils can provide), the infirm; they are also the rich and transient, the middle-income single, young people, and people on the move for jobs.

No party appears to have looked housing policy and the conditions for renewed economic growth. Yet these must include housing for migratory workers as well as mobilization of some part of that great portfolio of assets now locked up in the building societies, for example by the provision of up-market rented accommodation. Everywhere - most worryingly in the Conservative manifesto - there is damp pessimism about the future of private renting; this reflects a refusal to face the inequalities of housing finance.

For years now a housing white paper has been needed to address the rented sector as a whole. It would redefine the role of council housing, yes, as a "residual" however much the town hall managers and Labour councillors might dislike that word. But it would also give councils a renewed role in clearing the unhappy end of the urban private rented market with its poor tenants and unmotivated landlords in order to re-launch the private rental market free of its Lloyd-George restrictions on rents and tenure. There is a role, too, for the publicly-financed but semi-autonomous housing associations and their often imaginative schemes for renting; the vitality of the associations is bought at the risk of lack of accountability and concealed bureaucracy.

The writers of such a white paper would take little from the housing paragraphs of the manifestos currently on display. All parties now appear modishly to subscribe to the idea of "rights" for tenants, for example to do their own repairs at the council's expense; and all - especially the Alliance - are starry-eyed about the management problems arising from a stock of council dwellings more than half of whose tenants now rely on social security.

For the rest, the manifestos are unreliable on two counts. One is the numbers game which all governments are tempted to play over the scale of house-building; the other is the fact that any sensible housing policy must inflict some pain - through councils charging reasonable rents, through the erosion of that distortion contained in mortgage tax relief, and in the liberation of building land to those desirable parts of the country where the jobs happen to be.

Labour is mesmerized still by house-building aggregates, as if foundations laid, preferably at public expense, were the test of virtue they once were. The party's plans rely on a concept of housing need as an absolute and shifting agglomeration of preferences within a crude surplus of physical buildings over households. That said, Mrs Thatcher's government has seemed complacent. Unless the boom in private sector building recently described by some does indeed happen, by the middle of the decade there will again be a marked discrepancy between households and houses, with keen consequences for prices and social comfort.

The government's refusal to give any estimates of the future course of housing demand has sadly been typical of an approach that has failed to locate housing investment within the national economy or acknowledge the artificial buoying up of demand for housing funds through fiscal distortion and housing market imperfections (stamp duty, estate agency) protected by governments.

Because manifestos are about promises to give things to people, the Conservatives do not claim credit as they should for pushing council rents up to a more realistic level (though the recent spectacle of some councils subsidizing their rates through council rents suggests the process may be going too far). Sensible housing policy for the 1980s requires taking things from people - like the benefits of mortgage tax relief, some security of tenure, green fields needed for building. The Conservatives with their acute sense of housing's politics are making no such threats, and the other parties promise all things to all men; housing policy suffers as a result.

## DUBLIN CASTLE IN THE AIR

The New Ireland Forum opens in Dublin Castle today. Dr FitzGerald, Mr Haughey, Mr Spring leader of the Irish Labour Party, and Mr Hume leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Northern Ireland will be there with their respective party delegations. The chairman of the gathering is a university president Dr Colm O hEochá, a spelling which prudently invests the value-laden name Haughey with the obscurity of its own language. Absent will be the political fronts of republican violence, which were not invited, and the unionist parties in the North, which were invited but did not respond. Mere disappointingness of the organizers' point of view is the sharp rejection Ulster's Alliance Party gave the invitation. It is a sign of the up-hill gradient in front of the forum that Ulster's consciously non-sectarian, cross-community party could not afford to get mixed up in it at election time.

The purpose of the forum is to discuss and agree structures for a "new Ireland", which is code for a form of united Ireland that goes out of its way to accommodate the characteristics and allay the distrust of Ulster Protestants. The idea originated with Mr John Hume as a positive gesture

to offset his party's negative posture of abstention-in-advance in the elections to the Northern Ireland Assembly last year. It has been taken up in Dublin with rather more enthusiasm than its merits appeared to deserve, partly as a life-line for the SDLP in the present election.

For Dublin, and not for Dublin alone, the most important sub-plot of the general election in the United Kingdom is Sinn Féin's challenge to the SDLP, which directly confronts the constitutional politics of Irish nationalism with the Armalite politics of the same, and invites the Roman Catholic electorate to decide between them. The SDLP is vulnerable to the taunt that it has made no progress on the national issue: the Dublin Castle forum can be appealed to as movement of a kind.

Being a hypothetical exercise, the forum is in some danger of falling victim to the domestic manoeuvring of the southern Irish parties. But supposing it does agree on the details of a scheme for a sovereign but plural all-Ireland state, its architects take it on from there by suggesting either that the picture will look so attractive to Ulster

Protestants that a transformation of their outlook will set in, or that the picture will look so appropriate and rational to British political opinion that it will start working on the attitude of Ulster unionists in earnest. Since Britain's discharge of its responsibilities in Northern Ireland is grounded and shaped by the settled determination of the majority of the province's inhabitants to remain a part of the realm they now belong to, the second of these hopeful suppositions is really dependent on the first, that is a transformation of attitudes in Ulster.

Unfortunately for the forum two tendencies which had been working to mollify unionist antipathy towards joining with the Republic have received a perhaps temporary but stunning check. The Republic's economic miracle, which was rapidly closing the wealth/welfare gap between north and south and which was earning frank respect, has come to grief in financial mismanagement. And Dr FitzGerald's crusade to purge the Irish constitution and political ethos of confessional elements has come to grief in the political fiasco of the abortion referendum, which is expected to be staged in July. The forum opens at an inauspicious moment.

## RAPE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE

Farming is the most visible of all occupations and excites comment accordingly. Having through long years of husbandry created the lineaments of one common notion of the picturesque, it is exposed to the charge of vandalizing its own landscape whenever conspicuously different ways of working the land are introduced. This infuriates farmers, who regard themselves with some reason as models of the productive efficiency which everyone pays homage to. When grubbing out hedges, or flailing them, or ploughing uplands, or draining wetlands, they are gainfully employed filling the nation's breadbasket. They are also incidentally removing the cover for birds, mammals and insects, destroying the habitat for aquatic plants, restricting public access, or changing the face of England for the worse; and they must expect to hear about it. So they had better brace themselves against some reaction to the rape explosion - oilseed rape that is - which can now be seen in all its lurid glory, supposing the sun comes out again.

chemical yellow in the month of May. It spills over the decent verdure of early summer like a phosphorescent slick. So strident is the pigment and so intense the glare that motorists in the eastern counties complain of rape blindness in certain lights. There used to be fields of buttercups at this time of year - there still are in backward parts of Somerset - but the rape tracts are as far removed from that idyll as margarine, their end product, is from butter.

Twelve years ago it was only the odd field here and there that exhibited these symptoms, intended, it was erroneously supposed, to fill the mustard pots of England. Rape took off in the middle seventies. Before that it did not appear in the main series of British agricultural statistics. More ground was given to hops than rape. Now it covers 450,000 acres, outstripping oats, and is spreading.

It owes its startling rise first to the plant breeders who developed varieties with much reduced erucic acid content, so making its oil suitable for blending in margarine and cook-

ing oil; it owes something to its convenience as a break crop for early harvesting, which gives good entry for succeeding winter cultivations; and it owes its rise not least to the Common Agricultural Policy which aims at greater self-sufficiency in vegetable oils and underpins the market for oilseed rape by means of intervention prices. The EEC has come to the point of being a net exporter of rapeseed oil. But there is still scope for import substitution of other vegetable oils, and so no sign of a let-up in the yellowing of England.

It shall be left to the NFU to juggle with the unteachable proposition that a rape field in full bloom is a thing of beauty. The name Van Gogh is sometimes murmured in defence. That is to insult the artist. He worked with a brush not a spray can. His yellow fields are gashed with poppies. Rape flowers before the poppy comes, and even if the poppy were to show its head herculean mania would do for it, just as pesticidal mania does for the poor bee, who aloof among God's creatures likes the look of all that yellow.

## Electoral choice placed in historical perspective

From Professor Royden Harrison

Sir, The Prime Minister rightly contends that this election offers us the most dramatic and the most important choice since 1945. But neither Mrs Thatcher herself, nor the other protagonists, can claim to have explained the nature of that choice in its philosophical terms nor to have placed it in its historical perspective.

Alas! One looks in vain to Mr Roy Jenkins to improve the debate. Having announced that he came to break the "mould" of British politics he has put himself in a thoroughly false position. Instead of proudly taking up the mantle of the Conservative leader which is truly his, he cannot break himself of the habit of affecting originality.

The Opposition is in transition from Labourism to Socialism. Mrs Thatcher exaggerates when she suggests that this transition is complete. The mudgers and the sages are still on stage. However, she is correct in discerning a widening gap between the Labourists concerned with defending the existing interests of dependent employees and the Socialists who are bent on enlarging the definition of those interests so as to challenge the existing distribution of wealth and the structure of power.

At the same time the Tories themselves are experiencing divisions which are hardly less profound. The Conservative tradition ideologically with the "wets" is going down before the radical reaction of the "arids". The process was inaugurated by Mr Heath, not by Mrs Thatcher. After all it was Mr Heath who diminished the British Commonwealth of Nations in favour of belonging to a European market. It was Mr Heath who wanted to sweep away, at a stroke, the whole existing structure of industrial relations in favour of some untried, radical, systematic, legal jobbery.

But it was indeed not until the advent of Mrs Thatcher that Conservatives so far forgot themselves that they mounted a frontal attack upon the whole post-war social settlement. The mixed economy should be dismantled in favour of "small business". Comprehensive social services should be replaced by a two-tier system favourable to the thrifty and to the deserving poor. Keynes was wrong and Beveridge was mad when they suggested that Government should and should not have responsibility for full employment. Then in an inspired after-thought Mrs Thatcher performed the Indian rope trick. She made a glorious defence of the outposts of Empire after the Empire had gone. The Falklands, the Rock, Hongkong. It is to be expected that, within the lifetime of the next Parliament, she will open

negotiations with President Mitterrand for the recovery of Calais!

The brutal truth of the matter is that a lady who aspires to lead us into the twenty-first century while fixing her eyes upon the values of the nineteenth may pass for a Conservative among the shopocracy of Grantham, but won't do at all for the better advantaged and more knowing part of her constituency.

So let Mr Jenkins put his pride in his pocket and improve his opportunity. He is the last, and the best friend of British Conservatism. I have no doubt that a man of such literary accomplishment and such continuous education will know how to explain that "wise prejudice" by which "we are taught to look with horror on those children of their country who are prompt rashly to hack (their) aged parent in pieces, and put him into the kettle of magicians."

Yours sincerely,  
ROYDEN HARRISON,  
Centre for the Study of Social History,  
University of Warwick,  
Coventry,  
May 26.

From Dr Sebastian Kraemer  
Sir, "Our competitors," Mrs Thatcher and Mr Tebbit's words for other countries. Is it the idea that Britain is a floating ship with guns on it that has apparently won the hearts of the people?

Judging by the polls the new business Tories seem to have got the mixture just right, sacrificing the old patrician value of "service", the liberal "citizenship" or the socialist "comradeship" in favour of just winning. And so they will, and lead us into the selfish society, unless the electorate wakes up in time to realize that nations run on cooperation and not on victories.

Yours etc,  
SEBASTIAN KRAEMER,  
39 Brixton Water Lane, SW2.

From Mr R. J. Hensher  
Sir, David Blunkin's letter (May 27) is a typical piece of "chip-on-the-shoulder" socialist demagoguery. His implied threat that the people of Sheffield, faced with being "trampled into the ground in the event of a Tory victory", will rise en-masse and declare UDI shows that he is as much in touch with the people he represents as is Arthur Scargill with the miners.

What is more apparent, and totally ignored by the City Council, is a genuine concern by local people that the city has become shabby, litter-strewn and unpleasant in aspect, and that the ill-considered policy of rates has resulted in empty shops, business closures and loss of jobs.

There is no great feeling of resentment against the south or

## Limits of Wessex

From Mr Davyd Robyns, Wessex Regionalist candidate for Woodspring

Sir, It is the privilege of this issue to choose the style in which to report events but errors of fact cannot go unchallenged. Your correspondent, Alan Hamilton ("Wessex, the 'one-issue' party", May 24), alleges our Wessex region to be "a considerably bigger place than that defined either by Thomas Hardy or the Alliance Green Paper on regional government."

Hardy's views are stated quite clearly in his general preface to the Wessex Edition of 1912. The action of the novels may have been concentrated in those parts of the region with which Hardy was most familiar but there can be no doubt as to its intended extent. The half-dozen counties here re-named under the old name of Wessex - Dorset, Devon, Somerset, Wiltshire, Hampshire, and the Cotswolds - were bounded on the north by the Thames, on the south by the English Channel, on the east by a line running from Hayling Island to Windsor Forest and on the west by the Cornish coast...

## A searching look

From Mr J. Leslie Nightingale

Sir, Some 30 years ago a party of boys from Hill Top School came to the native city after a holiday in Holland. On leaving the ferry all the boys and two assistant masters passed safely through the customs. The only member of the party to be stopped and to have his baggage searched was myself - the Headmaster.

Yours truly,  
J. LESLIE NIGHTINGALE,  
11 Marshall's Road,  
Raunds, Northamptonshire.

## Founding Shelter

From Sir Robert Megarry, FBA

Sir, An article in your issue of April 27 described Mr Des Wilson as "founder of Shelter". He did, indeed, from early days, do much to make Shelter what it is, but the credit for being the founder belongs not to him but to the Reverend Bruce Kenrick.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
R. E. MEGARRY,  
5 Stone Buildings,  
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

## Enforcing the law

From Mr S. T. Fahm

Sir, Your leading article of April 30, on the use made by local authorities of Section 222 of the Local Government Act 1972 is not only mistaken, but expressed a point of view which is totally unfair to local government and those employed in it.

It should be pointed out that the occasions when it becomes necessary to resort to powers granted by Section 222 are few and far between; powers only become useful in cases where local authorities have prosecuted successfully in the courts and the defendant has persisted in ignoring the decision of the courts, either because the maximum fine prescribed by law is so low, that in the context in which

large towns and ports tending to mark the outline of Wessex - such as Bath, Plymouth, The Start, Portland Bill, Southampton, etc.

The Green Paper to which reference was made in an SDP consultative document - it is not the official policy of either party and in fact delineates two, overlapping but different definitions of the Wessex region, neither of which corresponds to the traditional Wessex. It is because we believe that regional government should be based on the correct use of historic identities and not on their misuse as mere labels for functionally-defined areas that we are contesting this election directly. We are not impressed by schemes which, like the 1972 Local Government Act, manipulate identity for bureaucratic ends.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID ROBYNS,  
16 Newlands Green,  
Cotswolds,  
Wotton,  
Somerset,  
Wessex.

## Saving parish records

From the Reverend W. H. Pick and Mr C. T. A. Burgess

Sir, We write from the parish of St Cuthbert, North Meols, in the diocese of Liverpool which is fortunate to possess intact parish registers from 1594 and many other ancient documents. Our registers have recently been restored and re-bound. They are now kept in a proper document chest within the church. They are available, at our discretion, for inspection.

We believe that the lessons of the past war should not be forgotten. In any future civil or military disturbance the risks of serious damage are less would be lessened by the wide dispersal of precious records. Our registers would have to be stored at the County Record Office, Preston just by the railway station close to the main line from London to Scotland. We think our treasures will be safer for future generations in the peace of North Meols church.

Yours faithfully,  
W. H. PICK, Rector,  
C. T. A. BURGESS, Churchwarden,  
20 Bankfield Lane,  
Southport,  
Merseyside.

## Energy savings in housing stock

From Professor Patrick O'Sullivan

Sir, I write in reaction to the article "Over-insulated homes" in *The Times* on May 23, as I believe that such generalised condemnations that modern domestic insulation methods are believed (after 10 years of research, development, demonstration and successful application) to be a serious threat to health... are, to say the least, unhelpful. The improvement in energy efficiency in our existing housing stock by insulation and ventilation control is worthwhile both on an individual and national basis. It can be, and has been supported by strong cost-effective and comfort arguments.

To the best of my knowledge, the existing evidence of radon "build-up" in rooms of domestic dwellings occurs only when the rate of air change in those rooms is well under one half an air change per hour. We have in the UK millions of post-war houses where the air change rate is in excess of two to three air changes per hour. The purpose of the "save it" campaign and indeed much other technical and professional advice was to encourage house owners and occupiers to reduce their ventilation from the upper to the lower limit. This thereby not only saving energy, but reducing draughts and increasing comfort.

## Concern of constructors

From Mr Bruce Chivers

Sir, Talk of nationalization should draw attention to Labour's proposals to establish a state-owned construction corporation; to remove competitive tendering requirements on council building departments to give them a ratepayer-subsidized trading advantage in the private building market; to give "generous assistance" to so-called workers' cooperatives; and to introduce "casualization" through a registration board for construction operatives.

This threat of state intervention detracts from the clear commitment in the Labour Party manifesto to step up construction programmes.

We welcome that commitment. But we are concerned about the rate at which Labour would try to expand the industry, especially in a situation of unfair competition between public and private enterprise.

The industry needs a steady and sustained increase in construction investment - not a boom-bust cycle which Labour's proposals, if implemented, would be bound to start off, driving up costs and disrupting markets.

Because when the cutbacks inevitably come to such a cycle it would not be Labour's subsidized state organizations who would suffer, it would be free enterprise contractors once again, whose workload, and workforces, which would be hit.

We shall be looking to the next government, of whatever party, for sensible and practical policies, that will help to ensure future construction needs and enable us to provide our services efficiently and cost-effectively.

We will always oppose state intervention policies which would undermine our free enterprise industry.  
Yours sincerely,  
BRUCE CHIVERS, President,  
The National Federation of Building Trades Employers,  
82 New Cavendish Street, W1,  
May 25.

## Backing for Beirut

From Mr Adam Fergusson, MEP for West Strathclyde (Conservative)

Sir, Your leader today (May 20) "Backing for Beirut", asserts: "On the pressure side, what is missing at present is a strong reaffirmation of European views on Lebanese sovereignty, coupled with strong reminder of Syria's obligation to respect it."

No, Sir. Yesterday in the European Parliament in Strasbourg, just such a strong statement and reminder were given in a resolution which had overwhelming inter-party and international support.

Characteristically enough, a Lebanese delegation was present during the week, led by Mr Kamel El-Assad, President of the Lebanese Parliament. Mr Shimoo Peres, Leader of the Israeli Opposition, was also there with his delegation. Last month a high Syrian delegation visited us, maintaining against our protestations that any bilateral Israel-Lebanon settlement would "compromise" Lebanese sovereignty.

The proposition stands that "European" opinion is of much more significance outside than inside the Community. With great respect - what is missing is consistent coverage by *The Times* of the place where that opinion is first given wings. All three countries, Lebanon, Syria and Israel, have already got the message. I remain, Sir, Your obedient servant,  
ADAM FERGUSSON,  
9 Addison Crescent, W14.

## Test of faith

From Mr Harold Ingham

Sir, It has no doubt occurred to many of the readers of Mr Solzhenitsyn's recent article and subsequent correspondence in your columns that some of the most appalling examples of cruelty and brutality are constantly seen to take place in areas where those responsible are most strident in proclaiming their respect for the deity in Northern Ireland, the Near East and Iran.

Yours faithfully,  
HAROLD INGHAM,  
4 Christ Church Avenue,  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

## Energy savings in housing stock

From Professor Patrick O'Sullivan

Sir, I write in reaction to the article "Over-insulated homes" in *The Times* on May 23, as I believe that such generalised condemnations that modern domestic insulation methods are believed (after 10 years of research, development, demonstration and successful application) to be a serious threat to health... are, to say the least, unhelpful. The improvement in energy efficiency in our existing housing stock by insulation and ventilation control is worthwhile both on an individual and national basis. It can be, and has been supported by strong cost-effective and comfort arguments.

To the best of my knowledge, the existing evidence of radon "build-up" in rooms of domestic dwellings occurs only when the rate of air change in those rooms is well under one half an air change per hour. We have in the UK millions of post-war houses where the air change rate is in excess of two to three air changes per hour. The purpose of the "save it" campaign and indeed much other technical and professional advice was to encourage house owners and occupiers to reduce their ventilation from the upper to the lower limit. This thereby not only saving energy, but reducing draughts and increasing comfort.

Whereas it is sensible and realistic to point out that there may be problems associated with going below this lower limit, which incidentally are associated with those of condensation and mould growth as much as those of radon, it is ridiculous to suggest that such ventilation control will result in our unlimbed demise!

The methodology and techniques for safe, sensible ventilation reduction are generally available, and surely it is not unreasonable to expect at this time that he who raises the alarm, might also be required to describe the way in which such problems can be avoided. Horizontal membranes (ie damp proof courses) in modern housing with concrete floors may in new housing be part of the answer, but in the vast majority of existing housing, the established technology of window located trickle ventilators, already proving effective against condensation, are by sustaining air movement and air change a more realistic solution.

Yours sincerely,  
P. O'SULLIVAN,  
The Chair of Architectural Science,  
The Welsh School of Architecture  
Research and Development,  
University of Wales,  
Institute of Science and Technology,  
24 St Andrews Crescent, Cardiff,  
May 26.

## People's route

From Mr R. E. Ross

Sir, The People's March for Jobs 1983 is converging on London. On Tuesday, May 31 it was due to pass through Harpenden on its route from Luton to Hemel Hempstead. For reasons of traffic safety, it has been diverted down the A5, which passes through miles of empty countryside, and thus it is diverted away from the consciousness of a prosperous commuter town.

The unwillingness to face some traffic disruption seems a sad reflection of the dull indifference of the South-east (where unemployment rates are nevertheless uncomfortably high) to the desperation of the marchers from the rest of Britain.

Yours faithfully,  
R. E. ROSS,  
21 Coonaught Road,  
Harpenden,  
Hertfordshire.

## The Denver Boot

From Lady Sugden

Sir, The janitor of the University halls of residence in Edinburgh used to make the rounds of vehicles which were not parked according to his rules and paid a very big whitewashed X on the driver's side of every windscreen. This added considerably to the irritation of the Edinburgh Festival, though rather more in retrospect than at the time; the janitor certainly enjoyed it.

I would commend the practice to the Metropolitan Police as a greater economy than the dreaded Denver Boot.

Yours faithfully,  
MARIAN SUGDEN,  
Trinity Hall,  
Cambridge.

## Hooked on the fly

From Mr A. L. Maycock

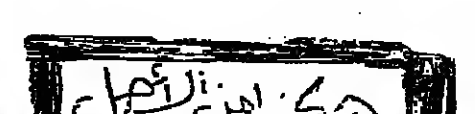
Sir, Before a new myth is created by John Hewish (May 21), may I say that by fishing on beautiful Lady-bower Reservoir and secluded small lakes here in the North-West for tasty, hard-fighting rainbows and brown trout stocked especially for our enjoyment is indeed the sport for the many. Hurray!  
Yours, etc.,  
A. L. MAYCOCK,  
59 Old Hall Road,  
Sale,  
Cheshire.

## Wayward water

From Professor John Lourie

Sir, It is a myth that water swirls down the plug-hole in different directions in the northern and southern hemispheres. In my house in Port Moresby (11° south) I have a double-sink unit in the kitchen; the water goes down one plug-hole clockwise and down the other anticlockwise.

I am Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
JOHN LOURIE,  
University of Papua  
and New Guinea,  
Boroko,  
Papua New Guinea.

























Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

- BBC 1
6.00 Breakfast AM News headlines...
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott...
9.15 Chigley A See-Saw programme...

- TV-am
6.25 Good Morning Britain...
9.30 Sesame Street...
12.00 Omnycast...
1.00 News followed by Bank Holiday Sports Special...

- BBC 2
6.05 Open University: Central Place...
10.30 Play School...
2.40 Film: The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex (1958)...
4.20 Film: They Died With Their Boots On (1941)...

- CHANNEL 4
2.50 Film: 48th Parallel (1941)...
5.00 A Kind of Living...
5.30 Loose Talk...
7.00 Channel Four News...
7.30 The Murrays...

- RADIO 4
6.00 News Briefing...
6.10 George Gershwin...
6.30 Today, including 6.25 Prayer for the Day...
8.35 The Week On 4...
9.00 News...
9.05 Start The Week With Richard Inge...

- RADIO 2
5.00 News...
5.05 Morning Concert...
9.00 News...
9.05 This Week's Composer...
10.00 News...
10.40 BBC Symphony Orchestra...
11.15 The Philharmonia...
11.25 Part 1: The Philharmonia...
11.30 Part 2: The Philharmonia...

- RADIO 3
6.55 Weather...
7.00 News...
7.05 Morning Concert...
8.00 News...
8.05 Morning Concert...
9.00 News...
9.05 This Week's Composer...
10.00 News...
10.40 BBC Symphony Orchestra...
11.15 The Philharmonia...
11.25 Part 1: The Philharmonia...
11.30 Part 2: The Philharmonia...

- RADIO 1
5.00 News...
5.05 Morning Concert...
9.00 News...
9.05 This Week's Composer...
10.00 News...
10.40 BBC Symphony Orchestra...
11.15 The Philharmonia...
11.25 Part 1: The Philharmonia...
11.30 Part 2: The Philharmonia...

ENTERTAINMENTS
OPERAS & BALLET
CONCERTS
THEATRES

CREDIT CARD
THEATRE BOOKING SERVICE
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EXHIBITIONS
Legal Appointments are featured every TUESDAY
ART GALLERIES

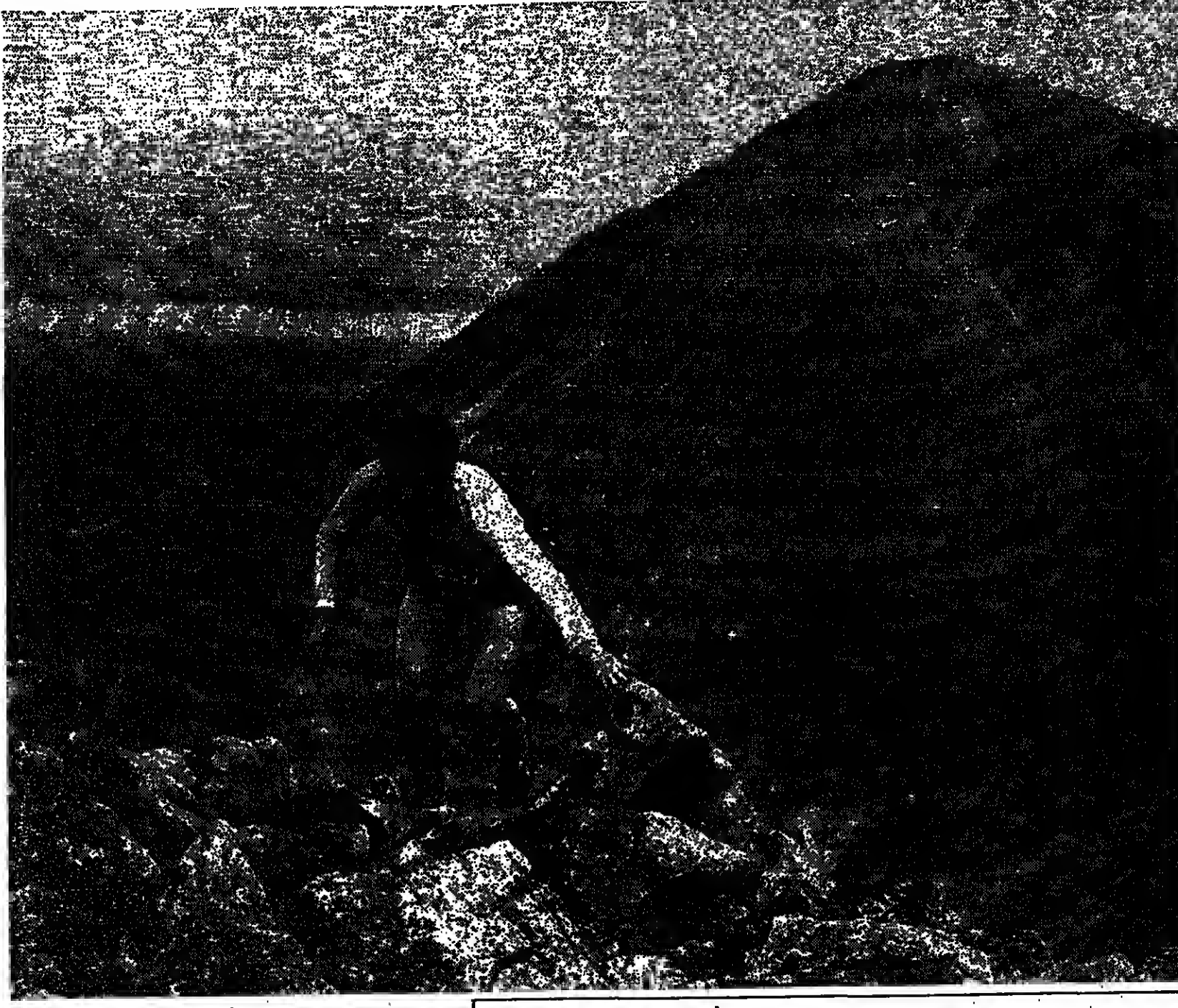


Alliance to capitalize on Steel's popularity

Continued from page 1 between success and failure for the Alliance, Mr Jenkins said: "Yes, I have always said I never liked it, I would be prepared to do anything to advance the cause of the Alliance, but there is no point in doing that. We are not changing rules, we are not changing titles."

Mr Steel said the Alliance accepted that they had not been as successful as they should have been in getting their policies across, and they would concentrate on that in the second half of the campaign. They did not believe, Mr Jenkins said, in "routine political invective"

Asked if they regarded the role of the Alliance to be a party of opposition moderating Mrs Thatcher's policies, Mr Steel: "Not at all. We believe that, at the moment, the Tories are winning - at the moment - but it is our task not to just overhaul the Labour Party, but to see if we can catch Mrs Thatcher in time." Asked if that was realistic, he said: "We think it is attainable. I would not put money on it, but we think it can be done."



Mountain runner shatters record

Saturday's Bens of Jura fell race was won by Andy Styan, aged 35, of Holmfirth Harriers, in a record time of three hours 24 minutes and 37 seconds for the 16-mile course. In the photograph by Tom Kidd, Brian Troughton of Bury AC is seen tackling Beinn Shiantaidh with Beinn an Oir (Mountain of Gold) rising magnificently to 2,571ft in the background.

Moscow radio's Afghan gaffe was a protest

Mr Vladimir Danchev, the Moscow radio announcer who referred to Afghan insurgents as "Soviet invaders", was making a personal protest against Soviet actions in Afghanistan, according to informed sources. Mr Danchev is of Uzbekistan, one of the Soviet Union's main Muslim areas. He has been ordered to return and is undergoing "medical treatment". He first made unorthodox references to Afghanistan during a news broadcast two weeks ago.

Unity at Williamsburg

The subject of huge US budget deficits and high interest rates came up at all the private bilateral meetings but was not expected to dominate the formal economic meetings at which unemployment and currency fluctuations will be highlighted. In the interests of harmony the leaders appeared to accept the new Reagan Administration line that high budget deficits are neither the cause of high interest rates nor a threat to the promising recovery. Airline talks: Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has voiced British concern about the possible impact on British airlines of an anti-trust suit in the United States, arising from the collapse of Laker Airways.

Letter from Williamsburg Lobster for the President yogurt for the press

At Versailles last year there was free champagne, paté and a huge variety of French cheeses for the accompanying horde of journalists. This year the fare at the Williamsburg summit is more modest - beer, hamburgers, "taste" chips and almost every kind of fast-food imaginable. One of the main problems for any government organizing a summit meeting of this nature (and it will be Britain's problem next year) is what to do with the press. All the conference sessions are taking place behind tightly-closed doors in a specially secured part of this picturesque eighteenth-century town. Even when the talking has stopped, access to the main participants is virtually impossible except at brief press conferences.

Catfish with hush puppies

So it has been decided that the best way of keeping the press happy is to lay on a constant supply of food and beverages. The summit organizers have consequently erected a huge blue and white striped tent covering more than an acre, where from dawn until midnight journalists can fill themselves with frozen yogurt, jelly-bean flavoured ice cream and Kentucky fried chicken. The eight-summit leaders are eating in much grander style. Craig Claiborne, the food writer of the New York Times, has devised a series of menus for them "made from American ingredients and American inspiration" that are intended to show American cuisine at its best. Their fare ranges from pork barbecue to Maine lobster, from Tex-Mex fish tamales to a Louisiana crayfish speciality known as Cajun popcorn, from California goat cheese to ginger snaps. Craig Claiborne believes that American cooking has been maligned for far too long and views the summit as a chance to set the record straight. However, one wonders whether President Mitterrand will really take to "deep fried catfish with hush puppies". When it comes to pageantry, the Americans can match the British any day. Whatever their ceremonial guards may lack in tradition they more than compensate for with the precision of their drilling and the verve of their music. A honour guard made up of all four services greeted all of the summit leaders as they arrived by horse-drawn carriages outside the former governor's mansion in colonial Williamsburg. But the main attraction was provided by a Redcoat drum and fife band which paraded in front of the welcoming dais playing a medley of old-American tunes. Tacitly, the band dropped Yankee Doodle when Mrs Thatcher arrived in case the song's revolutionary connotations might offend her, and played The British Grenadier instead. Sadly, a similar attempt to be tactful backfired with two of the other leaders. Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, was greeted with a rendering of The Maple Leaf Forever, which stirred unhappy memories of defeat among French Canadians, while Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, was serenaded with a song that was used to raise the morale of Japanese Navy crews before going in to battle during the Second World War and symbolized the rise of Japanese militarism.

Hats off for dashing Trudeau

Mrs Thatcher appeared to be far and away the most popular of the six visiting leaders with the natives of Williamsburg if applause is anything to go by. She received rousing cheers when she arrived, whereas the other leaders were offered only polite applause. Perhaps if the Americans had not revolted two centuries ago, the citizens of Williamsburg would be Tory voters today. But if Mrs Thatcher drew most applause, Mr Trudeau caused the biggest stir when he arrived, looking like Maurice Chevalier in a dashing white hat and a red rose in his button hole. To the dismay of the photographers, he took his hat off almost immediately and kept it off throughout the arrival ceremony. Eventually one frustrated photographer yelled at him "Put your hat back on" and Mr Trudeau - an experienced self-publicist - kindly obliged. Nicholas Ashford

Today's events

Diversion to Belmont: Work by Catherine Adams, Malcolm Ashman, Wendy Barr, Ann Watson, Liz Nash and Pat Panton, Bath School of Artists, 15 Belmont, Lansdown Road, Bath; daily 11 to 6 (until June 4). Embroideries, antique and modern. From the Danish Handicraft Guild. The Royal York Hotel, George Street, Bath; Mon to Sun 9 to 5 (until June 5). The Illustrated Book: Contemporary and earlier book illustration with special reference to wood engravings by John Lawrence, Peter

Nature notes

Jays have left the gardens and are back in the woods, breeding. Their strong nest of sticks, roots and earth is often built in a low hazel tree. Male yellowhammers are in full song on hedge-sprays and telephone wires; the female sits on four finely pencilled eggs in a nest at the bottom of the hedge. Some greenfinches already have large young in their nests in the laurel bushes - sturdy, greyish-green nestlings who thrive on the crushed seeds and insects that both their parents bring them. Trees are about a fortnight behind last year, with many oaks and ash-trees still not in full leaf. On dropping, before the leaves are completely open. Bluebells are fading or turning pink. In the fields, dandelion clocks stand in large pools of buttercups, and the grasses are growing tall. The meadow foxglove has a long head, covered with silky, silvery hairs; the clock-foot grass, with its hard, rough leaves has a knobby head tinted with purple, while the annual meadow grass, with its small triangular seed-head, contributes the brightest and most abundant green to the landscape. DJM

Roads

South-east: A5: Heavy traffic going to Herts County Show, Guilford. A3 and A25: Heavy traffic because of Surrey County Show, Guildford. Midlands and East Anglia: A45 and A42: Heavy traffic all weekend because of Ideal Home Exhibition at NEC, Birmingham. M1: Lane closures at junction 19 (M6). North: M6 and M55: Heavy holiday traffic returning from Lake District and Blackpool; most motorway roadworks suspended. A1/A6136: Lane closures for flyover construction on Catcric by-pass, N York. Wales and West: M5: Lane closures between junctions 8 (M50 junction) and 9 (A58 junction). Information supplied by the AA.

Weather

A frontal trough will approach SW Britain later today. 6 am to midnight London, SE, Central S England, Midlands, S Wales: Scattered showers; bright intervals at first, becoming cloudy, rain later; wind variable, light, becoming SE; moderate; max 13 or 14C (55 to 57F). East Anglia, E Central N NE England, Borders: Cloudy and misty at first; sunny intervals and showers later; wind variable, light or moderate; max 12 to 14C (54 to 57F). Channel Islands, SW England: Becoming cloudy; rain, wind SE; becoming moderate, increasing fresh; max 14 or 15C (57 to 59F). N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, N Ireland: Sunny intervals, showers; wind variable, light becoming E; moderate; max 12 to 14C (54 to 57F). Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll: Sunny intervals at first, showers later; wind variable, light or moderate; max 11 or 12C (52 to 54F). Moray Firth, NE and NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Showers, heavy at times; sunny intervals; wind N fresh, locally strong; max 10 or 11C (50 to 52F). Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Continuing unsettled, rather cool generally. SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind mainly S, light or moderate; sea slight. English Channel, W of W: Wind mainly SE, light or moderate; sea slight. S of G: Wind E, light or moderate; sea slight. Irish Sea: Wind variable, light; sea smooth.



Table with 4 columns: Location, AM, PM, FT, HT. Lists high tide times for various locations like London Bridge, Aberdeen, and Cardiff.

Table with 4 columns: Location, Sun Rise, Moon Rise, Sun Sets, Moon Sets. Lists sunrise and sunset times for various locations.

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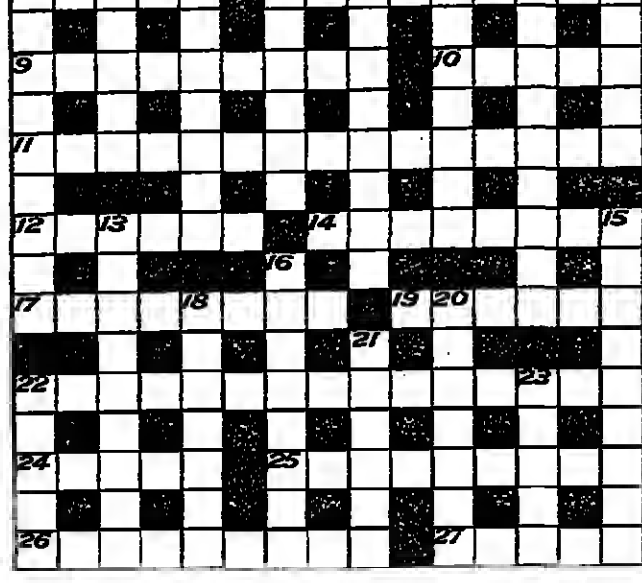
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Table with 4 columns: Location, Sun Rise, Moon Rise, Sun Sets, Moon Sets. Lists sunrise and sunset times for various locations.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,142



- ACROSS 1 Subject to restricted choice (5). 2 Saucer for Ganycode (9). 3 One too young to become part of the pack (5, 4). 4 Bed visibility forecast for weird sisters' hoverscraft (5). 5 First citizen to do a stage turn (4, 11). 6 Name-dropper, like Charles Macintosh (6). 7 Courses of action for those under cover (8). 8 In this event, get bagged (4, 4). 9 Apply squeeze - in Chinese laundry? (6). 22 Kind of gun - Lee-Enfield for example? (6-9). 24 Hippo dances turn (5). 25 Shifty Arab stole the navigational aid (9). 26 Where all earth-dwellers, rejoicing, come in the old order of times (9). 27 Close behind the back of the Board (5).

Talks, lectures, films

Bridges over the Forth, by C. L. Thompson, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh. Art and architecture in ancient Macedonia, by Prof Manolis Andriopoulos of Aristotle University, Natural Philosophy Lecture Theatre, St Machar Drive, Old Aberdeen, 5.15. Music Organ recital by Gordon Stewart, Coventry Cathedral, 1.05. Ocho Festival of Music: Gala evening with Oban Bach Choir and Orchestra, St John's Cathedral, Oban, 8.15. Organ recital by Simon Lindley, Liverpool Cathedral, 11.15. General Steam Open Day, Rutland Railway Museum, Cotsworth. Iron Ore Mines Siding, Ashwell Road, Cottingham, near Oakham, 11 to 6. East of England Motor Show, Lilford Park, Lilford, near Oundle, 10 to 6. Medieval Jousting Tournament, Belvoir Castle, near Grantham, 12. Surfleet Donkey Derby, The Park, Park Lane, Surfleet, Lincs, 2.0.

Holiday events

Most museums and galleries will be open in London today. Those closed include Apsley House, Crafts Council, Museum of London and Whitechapel Art Gallery. London Tourist Board's services will operate as normal today. The National Tourist Information Centre is open every day from 9am to 8.30pm; the telephone information service on 01-730 0791 operates from 9am to 5.30pm.

Anniversaries

Alfred Austin, poet laureate, 1896-1913 was born at Leeds, 1835. Deaths: Saint Jean (of Arc), was burned at the stake, Rouen, 1431; Christopher Marlowe, London, 1593; Sir Peter Paul Rubens, Antwerp, 1640; Alexander Pope, Twickenham, 1744; Voltaire, Paris, 1778; Wilbur Wright, pioneer in aviation, Dayton, Ohio, 1912.

The pound

Table with 4 columns: Bank, Bank Sells, Australia \$, Belgium F, Canada \$, Denmark Kr, Finland Mkk, France Fr, Germany DM, Greece Dr, Hongkong \$, Ireland P, Italy Lira, Japan Yen, Netherlands Gld, Norway Kr, Portugal Esc, Spain Pta, Sweden Kr, Switzerland Fr, U.S.A. \$, Yugoslavia Dnr. Lists exchange rates.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000: WZ 900667 (the winner comes from London); £50,000: 13RT 03343 (Birmingham); £25,000: 1CR 889876 (Brighton).

The papers

The question now facing the SDP-Liberal Alliance was one of survival, according to The Observer, yesterday, which praised the Alliance's policies but accused it of a lack of passion and "cutting edge" in its electioneering. Assessing the Conservatives' claim for a second term, The Sunday Times praised Mrs Thatcher for the Falklands victory and the Zimbabwe settlement and said she had changed the national mood for the better by a process of "moral reconstruction". But the country was more divided, the Conservatives continued to preach "salvation through masochism" and a Tory landslide could well bring an "alarming" shift to the right, particularly in areas like immigration, the welfare state and anti-union plans. That the newspaper said would be moral reconstruction gone wrong. Dealing with the Alliance's dual leadership, The Mail on Sunday said Mr Jenkins had proved as much of a disaster for the SDP as Mr Foot had for Labour. Without the trappings of office "this plummy style echoes empty."

Lighting-up time

London 9.30 pm to 4.20 am. Bristol 9.40 pm to 4.30 am. Edinburgh 10.15 pm to 4.47 am. Manchester 9.54 pm to 4.15 am. Newcastle 9.50 pm to 4.49 am.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, cloud; F, fair; S, sun. Belfast C 11, F 52. Birmingham C 11, F 52. Blackpool C 11, F 52. Cardiff C 11, F 52. Glasgow C 11, F 52. Liverpool C 11, F 52. Manchester C 11, F 52. Newcastle C 11, F 52. Nottingham C 11, F 52. Plymouth C 11, F 52. Southampton C 11, F 52. Swansea C 11, F 52. Weymouth C 11, F 52. York C 11, F 52.

Highest and lowest

SATURDAY: Highest day temp: Newcastle, 18C (64F); lowest day temp: Liverpool, 7C (45F). Highest night temp: Newcastle, 10C (50F); lowest night temp: Liverpool, 2C (36F). SUNDAY: Highest day temp: Newcastle, 18C (64F); lowest day temp: Liverpool, 7C (45F). Highest night temp: Newcastle, 10C (50F); lowest night temp: Liverpool, 2C (36F).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No. 16,141 will appear next Saturday

